

Swedes drop depth charges on 'sub'

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Swedish navy Tuesday dropped depth charges on a suspected foreign submarine lying off the Karlskrona naval base in southern Sweden, a military spokesman said. The spokesman said a total of 10 depth charges were dropped Tuesday afternoon, but there were no indications that they had hit their target. The Swedish navy last weekend began searching for a possible submarine intruder off Karlskrona where a Soviet submarine ran aground in November 1981. The spokesman said the navy was now convinced that a submarine was lying south of the base, which remains ice-free in winter. He declined to say what kind of indication the navy had of the submarine's presence. This is the first time Sweden has dropped depth charges in a submarine search since last September when a similar incident occurred off Karlskrona.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز: جريدة سياسية مستقلة منشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

Soviets tentatively okay U.N. force

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union has given a tentative go-ahead to establishment of a United Nations peacekeeping force in Lebanon if the United States will withdraw both its Marines and its ships from Lebanon, U.S. officials said Monday. An official, who insisted on anonymity, said it was doubtful that President Ronald Reagan's administration would approve withdrawal of the American ships from Lebanese waters at the present time. The administration already has said it will move the Marines now in Lebanon to the ships. The Soviet Union signalled its willingness to consider a U.N. force for Lebanon through the French, who relayed the changed attitude to Washington. Moscow also was said to be in contact with the United Nations.

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S. Arabia pays aid instalment

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Arabia has paid the first instalment of its financial commitment to Jordan in accordance with a decision by the Baghdad Arab summit, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted a spokesman for the Jordanian Central Bank as saying Tuesday. Saudi Arabia has also paid its commitment to the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Steadfastness of the People in the Occupied Arab Territories, Petra said.

U.S. Congress gets informal notice on arms sales to Jordan

WASHINGTON (USIA) — U.S. Defence officials say that Congress has been informally notified that a sale of anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan could be forthcoming but so far there has been no formal notification. The officials said there has been no public discussion of the number of missiles involved, although news reports indicate that number could be up to 1,600. There have been discussions with Jordan, U.S. Defence officials said, but until formal notification to the Congress, which might not come before the end of the month, there will be no details on the particulars of those discussions from the Pentagon.

Tunis meeting to discuss Israeli plan

TUNIS (Petra) — The 32nd session meeting of supervisors of Palestine refugee affairs in host Arab countries, which opened here Tuesday, is expected to discuss a working paper by Jordan on an Israeli plan to move Palestinian refugees in the occupied West Bank to the Jordan Valley. The week-long meeting, which was inaugurated by Arab League Assistant Secretary-General Mohammad Al Farra, will also discuss a number of issues related to the Palestinian question and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Israeli convoy crosses Awali

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — An Israeli armoured convoy crossed the Israeli front line in South Lebanon Tuesday and moved up the coastal road as far as Damour for the second time in less than a week. Israeli sources said. The sources, who declined to be identified, said the patrol was made up of tanks and armoured personnel carriers.

Algeria, France discuss Mideast

PARIS (AP) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim conferred for nearly an hour Tuesday with President Francois Mitterrand and later told reporters they discussed Middle East and African problems. "We tried to identify and enlarge our existing areas of agreement in the hope that, in all the crisis areas of the Middle East and Africa, a dialogue may gradually replace confrontation," Mr. Ibrahim said.

Palestine, not Lebanon, is crux of Middle East issue, King tells Reagan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein has told U.S. President Ronald Reagan the Palestinian issue is at the core of the Middle East problem, despite what a U.S. official called America's national obsession with Lebanon.

King Hussein and Mr. Reagan discussed Middle East issues at the White House Monday. They were meeting again Tuesday over a second luncheon that would also include Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

A senior American official told reporters King Hussein emphasised that the Palestinian problem was the main one and expressed concern that Lebanon had become a diversion.

The official acknowledged that Lebanon had become a "national obsession" in the United States as American Marines were pinned down by shelling at Beirut's International Airport. But he said that with last week's decision to withdraw the Marines to ships offshore "the boil may have been lanced."

He said the redeployment was evidence of the U.S. commitment not to walk away from Lebanon or "moderate" Arab states.

The official said the 1,600 Mar-

ines were no longer fulfilling even a symbolic peacekeeping role at Beirut airport, but in ships they would retain the capability to return if conditions required.

Mr. Reagan was said to have assured King Hussein that the United States had pledged not to abandon Lebanon and was committed to a broader peace process in the Middle East.

King Hussein is to return to the White House Tuesday for the luncheon with both Mr. Reagan and President Mubarak. The two Arab leaders arrived in Washington over the weekend.

U.S. officials have said that the joint meeting of the two Arab leaders with President Reagan Tuesday was not planned in advance. King Hussein and President Mubarak happened to be in Washington at the same time and Mr. Reagan used the opportunity to invite them both for a joint working luncheon, and both the leaders accepted, a U.S. official said.

Mr. Mubarak flew from Paris where he had talks with President Francois Mitterrand on a 1982 French-Egyptian peace plan which declares that the Palestinians have the right to establish an independent state.

The United States and Israel oppose a separate Palestinian state, although Mr. Reagan has proposed Palestinian self-rule in association with Jordan in the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 war.

Mr. Mubarak's chief political adviser, Osama Al Baz, said Monday that the Egyptian leader's talks with Mr. Reagan would deal chiefly with the Palestinian issue.

"Our purpose is to break the vicious cycle of war, and the only way to do it is to give the Palestinians self-determination," he said.

Last December Mr. Mubarak met Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Cairo in a move regarded by the Reagan administration as an encouraging development.

The meeting signalled an easing of Egypt's isolation from the Arab World since it signed a separate peace treaty with Israel nearly five years ago.

Israel concerned over U.S. meetings

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli officials said Tuesday they feared President Ronald Reagan's meeting with His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak might give momentum to Mr. Reagan's Middle East plan, which they said Israel still rejected.

"There is a feeling that they are trying to do something behind Israel's back," the Associated Press quoted a source close to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as saying about Mr. Reagan's meetings with the Jordanian and Egyptian leaders.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy, addressing a conference of American Jewish leaders, warned that Middle East peace could not be a "one way" affair and reiterated Israel's rejection of Mr. Reagan's peace proposal.

"The U.S. knows, with all respect, that the Reagan plan is unacceptable to Israel and is opposed to the Camp David accords," Mr. Levy told the Congress of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Earlier Tuesday Reuter quoted a senior official as saying Israel is concerned that the Washington meetings may produce new Middle East peace formulas without Israel being consulted.

"Israel makes up 50 per cent of any peace process for the area and it is senseless to devise new formulas without its participation," the official told reporters.

He said Israel had no objection to the meetings, but said the substance of the meetings worried the government.

Israel believes its Camp David accord of 1979 with Egypt is the only viable plan for peace talks, the official said. Jordan has rejected the plan, which calls for limited Palestinian "autonomy" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip prior to determination of the area's final status.

"We don't think there's much point in other plans being developed and presented to us for our rejection," the official said.

PSP militiamen force back army from mountain bases

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese army said Tuesday it had been forced to "redeploy" after day-long attacks by opposition militias in the mountains outside Beirut.

It said units defending a strategic mountain ridge just south of Beirut had been forced to take up new positions after nearly 18 hours fighting that began at midnight.

Four times during the day, pairs of ageing government Hawker Hunter jets strafed and rocketed the attacking forces of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) as troops battled to hold their positions.

Opposition sources said 3,000 militiamen had been thrown into what could be a "decisive battle" to seize the ridge and link up their forces in the mountains with Shi'ite Muslim "Amal" (hope) militiamen who seized west Beirut last week.

During the night, the U.S. destroyer Admiral Claude V. Ricketts fired 11 five-inch shells at Syrian-backed opposition artillery batteries in the mountains.

But American forces provided no further military support for President Amin Gemayel's emb-

attled army during the fighting. The PSP "Voice of the Mountain" radio said repeatedly during the day that the army had been beaten back from its positions around four key mountain villages blocking the militia's path towards the coast and Beirut's southern suburbs.

At nightfall an army spokesman told Reuters that the situation in the mountains was unclear. "There are many attacks on our forces and we don't know exactly where their positions are," he said.

Military sources quoted by state-run Beirut Radio said the army was forced to redeploy when the militias threw in reinforcements after a successful army counter-attack early in the day.

They said the Syrian-backed PSP using artillery, tanks and rockets had first pushed the army back from the villages of Ain Al Ksour, Benay, Abey and Kfar Matta.

The troops, fighting "with rare courage in an unequal battle," had then regained the lost ground before the opposition poured in reinforcements and pushed them back, the sources added.

The radio report did not say how far the army had been thrown back, but the right-wing Falangist Radio said it was regrouping along the coast.

In the capital, fighting erupted between the army and militias in the Shi'ite suburbs at the southern end of the "green line" dividing the predominantly Christian east and mainly Muslim west Beirut.

Smoke poured from wrecked apartment blocks on the edge of the suburbs, but the city centre was quiet and traffic moved slowly for the third day through a crossing point between the two sectors of the city.

Reporters at the Defence Ministry in east Beirut heard army heavy guns firing six-shell salvos at the mountains and saw white rocket trails along the ridge above Beirut as opposition militias fired at army positions.

Beirut airport remained closed and witnesses said a terminal building was hit twice during the morning as six shells crashed into the airport.

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Beirut fighting brings toll to south; U.S. defines new role for Marines, page 2

Iraq suspends missile attacks

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Tuesday it would suspend attacks on Iranian towns for a week, as Tehran threatened to step up retaliatory raids amid a growing death toll on both sides from four days of artillery and missile bombardments.

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman said the suspension, from 3.00 p.m. (1200 GMT) Tuesday, was a goodwill gesture in response to an appeal from Paris-based Iranian opposition leader Masoud Rajavi.

"Rajavi's appeal had been under the kind consideration of President Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi leadership," the spokesman told the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

A spokesman in Paris for Mr. Rajavi, who lives in exile in the French capital, had reported the decision earlier Tuesday, quoting a letter to the opposition leader from Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

The announcement followed a series of air and missile attacks on Iranian cities started last week, which a senior Iraqi official said were aimed at forcing Iran to the negotiating table in their 40-month-old Gulf war.

The Iraqi spokesman in Baghdad said Tuesday the attacks would resume after a week if Iran continued its shelling.

The statement came as the flare-up in the conflict reached fresh heights, with new Iraqi missile attacks on six towns and both sides pounding the other with shelling.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei earlier said Iran would target all Iraqi cities, apart from those with holy shrines, for raids in retaliation for Iraqi shelling of Iranian towns.

An Iraqi military spokesman said Iraq had hit six more Iranian towns in air and missile attacks Monday night and Tuesday, in retaliation for Iranian shelling of six Iraqi towns which killed 22 civilians and wounded 60 more Monday.

Iran's news agency IRNA said at least 100 people had been killed and more than 400 wounded in Iraqi attacks in the past two days.

New U.N. offer

Hit by the Iranian barrage were the southern Iraqi provincial capital of Basra and the central border towns of Mandali, Khanuqin, Twelah, Khormal and Zarbata, according to the communiqué released by the General Command of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

Basra, which has an estimated population of 500,000, is located about 20 kilometres west of the Iraqi-Iranian battlefield.

In New York, a new effort to end the Iran-Iraq war was disclosed by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Monday, an offer to send a United Nations mission to the war-stricken area to learn the latest positions of both governments.

The secretary said the mission, which would be headed by a senior aide, would also look into allegations of attacks on civilians by both sides.

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Crack calls for Gulf war ceasefire, page 2



His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak show each other the way as Her Majesty Queen Noor looks on at a dinner the King and the Queen hosted in honour of the Egyptian leader and his wife in Washington Sunday night (AP wirephoto)

Andropov laid to rest

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet President Yuri Andropov was buried in Red Square Tuesday with full state and military honours in a ceremony watched by world leaders and representatives from more than 60 countries.

In a funeral oration, the new leader of the Soviet Communist Party, 72-year-old Konstantin Chernenko, praised the achievements of Mr. Andropov's short rule and told the West that Moscow would not be scared by threats.

Mr. Chernenko, looking his age and occasionally stumbling over his text, was followed by brief speeches from Foreign Minister And-

rei Gromyko and Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov, both of whom delivered similar messages.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and U.S. Vice-President George Bush were among the foreign visitors who watched the funeral in sub-zero temperatures. Each was due to meet Mr. Chernenko privately later in the day.

Impressive military display

The funeral ceremony was an impressive military display that ended with a march past by several thousand crack troops, their black

knee-high boots slapping the cobblestones as they strutted past in greatcoats and fur hats.

Mr. Andropov's body was brought from the green-and-white Hall of Columns, where it had lain in state for four days, and travelled the one-kilometre journey to Red Square on a gun carriage draped in black and red material and accompanied by officers in a solemn march.

The cortege was preceded by dozens of army officers carrying huge wreaths and others bearing red cushions, on each of which was placed one of the medals Mr.

(Continued on page 3)



Soviet soldiers and Politburo members carry the coffin of the late Soviet president, Yuri Andropov, to Red Square from the Hall of Unions Tuesday (AP wirephoto)

Chernenko meets top dignitaries

MOSCOW (R) — New Soviet Communist Party chief Konstantin Chernenko Tuesday greeted dozens of foreign leaders, including all his country's friends and many of its ideological opponents, as they filed through the most glittering hall in the Kremlin.

Presidents, prime ministers, party chiefs and other representatives of some 60 countries waited in line to be received by the stocky, white haired political veteran after the funeral of President Yuri Andropov.

Standing with three other top figures in the Soviet leadership of St. George's Hall, Mr. Chernenko, 72, who was named party general secretary Monday, shook hands and occasionally chatted with the world figures who took 35 minutes to walk past.

The dignitaries included U.S. Vice-President George Bush, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany, Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher of Britain and Pierre Mauroy of France, Cuban President Fidel Castro, Afghan President Babrak Karmal, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, Chinese Deputy Premier Wan Li and Indian Prime Minister and Non-Aligned Movement Chairperson Indira Gandhi.

(Continued on page 3)

Top world leaders confer in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Foreign leaders in Moscow for President Yuri Andropov's funeral plunged into a hectic round of bilateral contacts Tuesday with Lebanon, Afghanistan and Central America dominant themes.

U.S. Vice-President George Bush, set to meet new Communist Party leader Konstantin Chernenko later, had separate talks with Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

He would also discuss Lebanon with Italian President Sandro Pertini, U.S. officials said.

Pakistani sources said the Bush-Zia meeting centred on Afghanistan and how the conflict should be tackled in bilateral talks with Soviet officials.

General Zia discussed the same issue with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who was due to meet Mr. Chernenko later Tuesday.

The other Western leaders to have meetings arranged with the new Soviet leader are West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the French and Canadian prime ministers, Pierre Mauroy and Pierre Trudeau.

Pakistani sources said President Zia planned to hold further talks with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Cuban President Fidel Castro.

The conflict in Central America

was high on the agenda at two other sets of talks Tuesday.

Mr. Mauroy met Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra to discuss Nicaragua and El Salvador. Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme exchanged views on the region's troubles with Mr. Castro, diplomats said.

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi met Mr. Arafat for talks on the Middle East and Indian officials said she planned other contacts, but no details were known.

Japanese officials said Mr. Bush's meeting with Mr. Abe centred on Lebanon and Mr. Abe thanked the United States for rescuing Japanese citizens trapped in Beirut.

The two men also discussed bilateral trade, covering issues that are still irritating Washington because of Japan's huge trade surplus with the United States.

Mr. Abe met West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher earlier in the day when both voiced the view that no changes were expected in Soviet foreign policy following Mr. Andropov's death. Japanese sources said.

Mr. Trudeau met Dr. Kohl earlier Tuesday and Canadian sources said both had called for a U.S.-Soviet summit as soon as possible, saying it was in the interests of both East and West.

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هذه هي الدنيا

Egypt says Lebanese-Israeli pact must not be abrogated

WASHINGTON (R) — As President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt prepared to meet President Reagan Tuesday to discuss Middle East issues, one of his top aides said the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal agreement should not be abrogated but revised.

Osama Al Baz, Mr. Mubarak's chief political adviser, said in a television interview that the U.S.-mediated accord reached last May had "certain positive features." He did not elaborate.

The pact has been forcefully rejected by Syria and Syrian-backed factions in Lebanon because it calls for some normalisation of relations between Lebanon and Israel.

Mr. Baz said Mr. Mubarak's talks with Reagan would deal chiefly with the Palestinian issue.

"Our purpose is to break the vicious cycle of war and the only way to do it is to give the Palestinians self-determination," he said in a television interview.

He expressed deep concern about the situation in Lebanon and said he believed Egypt could play "an important role" in resolving the crisis.

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Mr. Baz supported the deployment of a United Nations force in Beirut to replace the present Multinational Force.

State Department Spokesman John Hughes Monday offered lukewarm support for a U.N.-sponsored force, saying that the United States would not oppose it in principle "provided the step is taken in a way that effectively helps the Lebanese problem."

A senior U.S. official conceded Monday that Lebanon had become a "national obsession" but said that with the current withdrawal of 1,600 U.S. Marines from Beirut to ships offshore, "perhaps the boil has been lan-

ced."

Redeployment of the Marines signalled the U.S. commitment not to cut and run from Lebanon or to desert the moderate Arab states, the official said.

Mr. Mubarak said at the weekend he would discuss with U.S. officials the revival of a two-year-old Franco-Egyptian peace proposal for the Middle East.

The plan, first presented to the U.N. Security Council in 1982, called for Palestinian self-determination including the right to an independent state and mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Craxi calls for ceasefire in Gulf

ROME (R) — Italy's Prime Minister Bettino Craxi has appealed to Iran and Iraq to end their hostilities which he said had already inflicted incalculable damage on both countries, officials said Tuesday.

Mr. Craxi made the appeal during talks with Taha Yassin Ramadan, the first deputy prime minister of Iraq, Monday night. He arrived earlier in the day for a three-day official visit.

Italy called for a negotiated settlement to the four-year conflict both for humanitarian and political reasons, Mr. Craxi said.

He added that the Gulf was of key importance to Western interests and any conflict in the area risked destabilising the entire region.

Mr. Craxi said he was deeply concerned over the possible consequences of the latest escalation of the conflict for Italians involved in civil engineering projects in Iran and Iraq, the sources said.

The two leaders, both accompanied by trade officials, also discussed ways of increasing trade between Italy and Iraq.

Iraq is a major supplier of oil to Italy and between 1978 and 1981 accounted for one-fifth of total Italian oil imports although the proportion has fallen to around eight per cent in the past two years, according to official trade figures.

Italy's Foreign Trade Minister Nicola Capria and Iraqi Commerce Minister Hassan Ali also attended Monday night's meeting.

He said it would not serve any useful purpose for him to comment on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's comment that if the United States allows Lebanon to abrogate the agreement it will be a signal for other nations not to deal with Israel.

Mr. Craxi said the idea of a United Nations force to substitute for the MNF is "worth exploring," but noted it has not yet "been fleshed out." He noted Under Secretary of State Eagleburger's comment that until the situation in Beirut "settles down" it might be difficult to find contributions for such a U.N. force.

He stressed the importance of diplomacy to reach a peaceful situation in the region.

"The Marines were never seen as a solution," Mr. Craxi said.

He said a timetable for redeployment of the Marines might be announced at mid-week, but said the plan is as generally described by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger over the weekend.

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ICRC airlifts supplies to Lebanon

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Tuesday airlifted 19 tons of emergency relief supplies to help victims of the fighting in Lebanon.

The supplies included 5,450 blankets, food for more than 1,000 families, 700 kitchen sets, emergency equipment for ambulances, drugs and more than 100 litres of blood, it said. They were flown in an ICRC-chartered plane from Larnaca, Cyprus.

Iran executes 19 drug smugglers

LONDON (R) — Nineteen drug smugglers were hanged in Tehran's Qasr Prison Tuesday after being sentenced to death by Iranian anti-drug courts, Tehran Radio reported.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation in London, said the 19 included "international" drug smugglers, but gave no further details.

U.S. to sell fighter planes to Turkey

WASHINGTON (R) — The Pentagon Monday announced plans to sell Turkey 15 F-4E fighters for an estimated \$70 million.

The sale is part of a continuing effort to strengthen the military capabilities of Turkey, a member of NATO.

Congress was notified of the decision and has 15 days to lodge an objection but none is expected because the sale is considered routine, a Pentagon spokesman said.

Draper calls for renewed Mideast talks

PRINCETON, New Jersey (AP) — U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper Monday urged the United States to resume negotiations in the Middle East to prevent the Syrian-Israeli confrontation from escalating.

"We will have to resume the process — perhaps on a new basis — of restoring some new form of Lebanese stability," Mr. Draper told about 70 people at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

Mr. Draper, who served as special presidential emissary to the Middle East from 1982 until last month, said the United States "could be sucked into a confrontation whether we like it or not."

He stressed the importance of diplomacy to reach a peaceful situation in the region.

"The Marines were never seen as a solution," Mr. Draper said.

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U.S. defines new Beirut Marines' role

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The U.S. Marine corps contingent in the Beirut Multinational Force will have a "very reduced role" once it is redeployed to ships off the Lebanese coast, Mr. Speakes told journalists Monday.

In addition to offering psychological support for the government of Lebanon, the Marines will have the "classical role of a Marine amphibious unit attached to the fleet," Mr. Speakes said.

He said the role of the Multinational Force will remain the same — to allow a breathing space for the Lebanese government and to permit it to expand its authority over the country.

He said a timetable for redeployment of the Marines might be announced at mid-week, but said the plan is as generally described by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger over the weekend.

Mr. Speakes said the idea of a United Nations force to substitute for the MNF is "worth exploring," but noted it has not yet "been fleshed out." He noted Under Secretary of State Eagleburger's comment that until the situation in Beirut "settles down" it might be difficult to find contributions for such a U.N. force.

He stressed the importance of diplomacy to reach a peaceful situation in the region.

"The Marines were never seen as a solution," Mr. Draper said.

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Mr. Craxi said he was deeply concerned over the possible consequences of the latest escalation of the conflict for Italians involved in civil engineering projects in Iran and Iraq, the sources said.

The two leaders, both accompanied by trade officials, also discussed ways of increasing trade between Italy and Iraq.

Iraq is a major supplier of oil to Italy and between 1978 and 1981 accounted for one-fifth of total Italian oil imports although the proportion has fallen to around eight per cent in the past two years, according to official trade figures.

Italy's Foreign Trade Minister Nicola Capria and Iraqi Commerce Minister Hassan Ali also attended Monday night's meeting.

He said it would not serve any useful purpose for him to comment on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's comment that if the United States allows Lebanon to abrogate the agreement it will be a signal for other nations not to deal with Israel.

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Iran executes 19 drug smugglers

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Tuesday airlifted 19 tons of emergency relief supplies to help victims of the fighting in Lebanon.

The supplies included 5,450 blankets, food for more than 1,000 families, 700 kitchen sets, emergency equipment for ambulances, drugs and more than 100 litres of blood, it said. They were flown in an ICRC-chartered plane from Larnaca, Cyprus.

Iran executes 19 drug smugglers

LONDON (R) — Nineteen drug smugglers were hanged in Tehran's Qasr Prison Tuesday after being sentenced to death by Iranian anti-drug courts, Tehran Radio reported.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation in London, said the 19 included "international" drug smugglers, but gave no further details.

U.S. to sell fighter planes to Turkey

WASHINGTON (R) — The Pentagon Monday announced plans to sell Turkey 15 F-4E fighters for an estimated \$70 million.

The sale is part of a continuing effort to strengthen the military capabilities of Turkey, a member of NATO.

Congress was notified of the decision and has 15 days to lodge an objection but none is expected because the sale is considered routine, a Pentagon spokesman said.

Draper calls for renewed Mideast talks

PRINCETON, New Jersey (AP) — U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper Monday urged the United States to resume negotiations in the Middle East to prevent the Syrian-Israeli confrontation from escalating.

"We will have to resume the process — perhaps on a new basis — of restoring some new form of Lebanese stability," Mr. Draper told about 70 people at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

Mr. Draper, who served as special presidential emissary to the Middle East from 1982 until last month, said the United States "could be sucked into a confrontation whether we like it or not."

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Beirut fighting brings lull in South

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — The turmoil in Beirut appears to have brought a lull in the guerrilla war against Israeli forces in South Lebanon.

"It has been quiet. Everybody is waiting to see what develops in Beirut," said an Israeli colonel as he peered out from the near-deserted Awali Bridge, linking South Lebanon with the rest of the country.

Sporadic hit-and-run attacks on Israeli patrols have continued but Israeli officers said these had declined since fighting engulfed the Lebanese capital early this month.

"At the moment none of the operations against us seem to be co-ordinated... we actually went a week without sustaining one serious casualty," the colonel added.

Below him a solitary car edged through the muddy Awali checkpoint before being stopped by Israeli soldiers searching for weapons and explosives.

After the Beirut battles broke out, the Lebanese army blocked off the coastal road south of the capital, reducing the traffic heading into Sidon to a trickle.

About 1,500 cars a day used to cross from the north and the queue stretched back three kilometres, according to Lieutenant-Colonel Nahum, commander of the Awali terminal.

"The first few days of fighting

around Beirut, several thousand refugees crossed over. Some

Technical fault disrupts Amman telephone lines

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical fault at the Abdali automatic electronic exchange has brought disruption to telephone communications in certain parts of Amman.

Telephone lines which are affected by the fault are those starting with the number six, according to Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director-General Mohammad Shahid Ismail.

He said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, made Sunday that teams from the company which installed the exchange system are busy working side by side with TCC technicians to repair the faulty lines.

TCC has been meeting technical difficulties in increasing the exchange's lines from 10,000 to 20,000 in order to meet the demand from prospective subscribers, Mr. Ismail said.

ACDIMA co-ordinates Arab drug production

AMMAN (Petra) — The progress of work on Arab pharmaceutical projects in which the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA) holds shares was discussed here over the last three days at a meeting of the ACDIMA board of directors, which comprises representatives of Arab pharmaceutical companies.

Speaking at the closing session, ACDIMA director-general, Dr. Muwaffaq Haddadin, said the company board reviewed a host of subjects concerning the manufacture of Arab medicine and drugs and an annual report that will be submitted to ACDIMA's general assembly meeting to be held here in May.

The board reviewed progress in drug industries in which ACDIMA has acquired shares such as the Kuwaiti Company for Pharmaceutical Industries which is to

be set up in October 1985, and the Antibiotic Industries Company which will be established in Baghdad soon, Dr. Haddadin said.

He added that the Antibiotic Industries Company will cost an estimated \$140 million.

According to Dr. Haddadin, the board has underlined the need to speed up the completion of a survey of Arab pharmaceutical industries and has reviewed steps taken so far in this respect.

He said that representatives from Arab drug companies have agreed to co-ordinate the quantities and types of drugs and medicine produced by their companies.

ACDIMA will soon make contact with Arab countries to prepare for a general conference to include all Arab pharmaceutical industries so as to discuss Arab pharmaceutical integration, Dr. Haddadin said.

Anthropology seminar discusses Bedouin life

By Saleem B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The symposium on "Anthropology in Jordan: A State of Art" resumed its second leg of discussions Sunday here at the Royal Cultural Centre. It is aimed at exploring the field of anthropology in the country on the various educational, cultural and research levels.

Speaking at the symposium, Dr. Ahmad Abu Hilal, a professor at the University of Jordan, talked about the Bedouin lifestyle and urbanisation and the practical fieldwork that he has conducted.

Dr. Hilal also reviewed the common socio-cultural values of urban and Bedouin people in the Kingdom.

Mr. Ricardo Poco, a scholar participating in the symposium, talked about the Bedouin culture, tradition and way of life and the Bedouin's history which was transferred and handed over from generation to generation through story telling.

Donald Henry, president of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Tulsa in the U.S., reviewed the seasonal migration of Bedouins in the south of Jordan throughout history, and the method of their migration from the Jordan Valley region to the hilly areas which has taken place over the last 60,000 years.

Mr. Henry pointed out that this migration is considered a routine course for the people in the area in

order better to exploit the economic situation and climate.

Participants at the symposium talked about the change of eating habits in Jordan from an anthropological point of view, and the socio-cultural implications of agricultural policy in the Jordan Valley in the bronze age in comparison with the 20th century.

They also discussed the life of man in the Bin Ghazal area near Amman in 7,000 years B.C. from a social, cultural and anthropological view.

Ahmad Sharaf, director of the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLNA) which is organising the symposium in co-operation with the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, said the deliberations of the symposium circled around the nature of anthropology and subjects pertinent to cultural traditions and habits of Jordanian society.

The symposium, he said, discussed subjects like the habit of drinking black coffee, the use of space and the role of anthropology in the development process.

Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday inaugurated the opening session of the three-day symposium and expressed the hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the social and cultural problems and would stimulate development in the field of anthropology to be properly implemented in the educational institutions in the Kingdom.

Jordan, PLO resume talks

(Continued from page 1)

both sides should consider the Reagan initiative as one of the options available despite its "negative elements." The PLO expressed outright rejection of the plan in top-level PLO meetings in Kuwait that followed the Hussein-Arafat talks in April.

The Jordanian view was that the Reagan initiative had at least "a mechanism for its implementation since the U.S. is the only power that can pressure Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories."

King Hussein has partly blamed the U.S. for the failure of the talks because although the Reagan initiative calls for Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and a freeze on Israeli settlements there, Washington did not exert proper pressure on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon on the first place and to freeze the settlements.

However, since April 1983 Jordan has indicated that the Reagan plan is "frozen," while PLO officials described it as "dead."

In a press conference in January, King Hussein indicated that Jordan would accept any peace initiative as long as the proposal is based on United Nations Resolution 242, which calls for Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967.

Although the PLO has never stated its acceptance of Resolution 242, Mr. Arafat has declared on different occasions his endorsement of any solution

based on all United Nations resolutions on the Palestinian issue. The PLO leader's stand implies an acceptance of the U.N. Partition Plan of 1947 which called for the creation of two states in Palestine — one Jewish and the other Arab.

The PLO rejected Resolution 242, which was formulated after the 1967 Middle East war, because "it addressed the Palestinians as refugees and not as a people which has the right to self-determination." But recent statements from both Jordan and the PLO indicate that they have decided to keep their options open.

King Hussein has said that Jordan has no specific peace plan in mind — a position that a senior PLO official confirmed to the Jordan Times as being mutual.

The official, a member of the PLO team in the talks, said: "We actually prefer that both sides work out their own initiative in view of the current situation."



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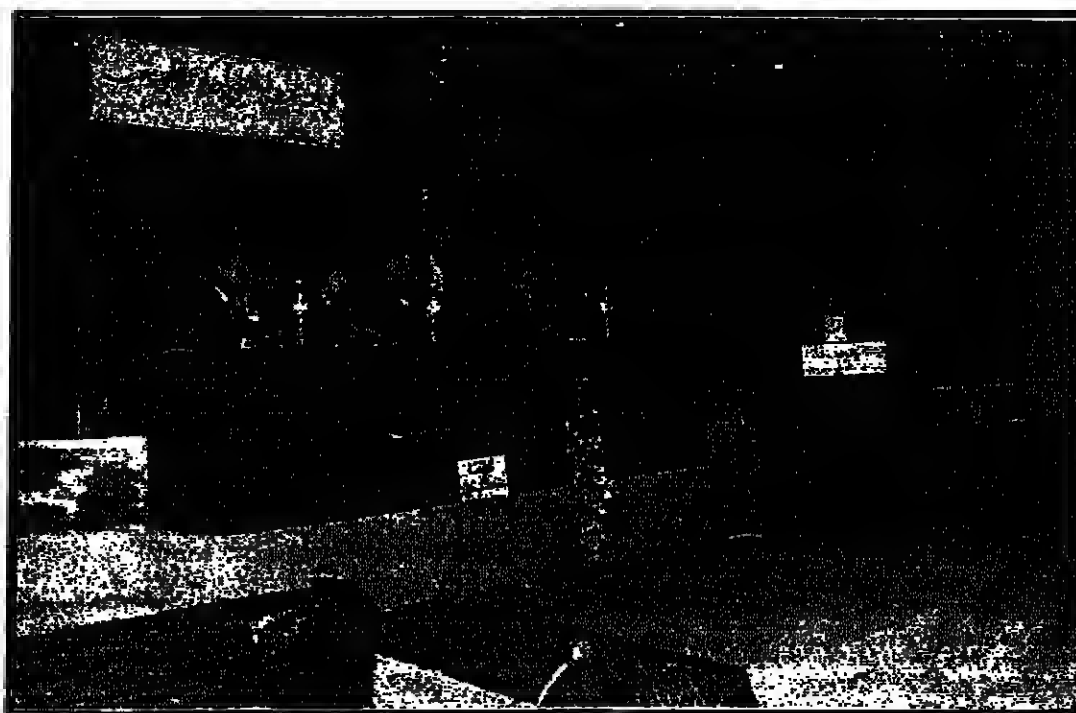
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Mrs. Hind Abdul Jabbar, president of the Amman Club for Business and Professional Women, Saturday addresses the seminar on "The Woman and Her Political Rights" (Petra photo)

Women urged to play full role in constitutional life of Jordan

By Affiah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's constitution has provided women with parliamentary rights and calls on them to participate in the executive and representative bodies of the country, thus making them pioneers in the eyes of society which has recognised and accepted their right to participate, Minister of Information Laila Sharaf, said Saturday.

Mrs. Sharaf was addressing the audience at a seminar entitled "The Woman and Her Political Rights", which was organised by the Amman Club for Business and Professional Women and held at the Amman Chamber of Industry.

By-election

In her address, Mrs. Sharaf called on Jordanian women to participate actively in the parliamentary by-elections to be held on March 12 in the East Bank.

She stressed that all women should approach polling day in a positive manner so as to form a definite opinion in choosing their representatives.

Mrs. Sharaf pointed out that the restoration of parliamentary life

and the holding of by-elections in the country is one of the first occasions in Jordan's history which has enabled women to exert their influence in a collective and comprehensive manner.

At the seminar, Mrs. Sharaf also called on all citizens to face up to their responsibility to promote parliamentary life in a powerful and full manner, according to the constitution.

"Otherwise democracy and its practice will remain a mere idea hidden away in our constitution and will not help develop the people's sense of responsibility."

The director-general and editor-in-chief of the Arabic daily newspaper Al-Dustour, Mahmoud Al-Sherif, also participated in the seminar at which he gave a brief account of political history of women in the Western world, which, he pointed out, was obviously restricted.

Mr. Sherif said that women's political rights are only a recent phenomenon and their development in various communities requires a long period of time before they became established.

"It represents the organic interaction between the women's exercise of their political rights and the increase in scope of education."

Islam

Referring to Islam and women's rights, Mr. Sherif said that Islam gives women equality of rights and promotes her status and role in the society.

The president of the Jordanian Women's Federation, Haifa Al-Bashir, also participated in the seminar and said that the Jordanian constitution provided all people with full rights.

It protects their right to have their own opinion which enables them to participate in formulating legislations and in deciding the type of rule under which they want to live, she said.

Mrs. Bashir added that Jordanian women came to prominence on the national level by excelling in their responsibilities towards their families on the one hand and towards their work on the other.

Addressing the audience, Mrs. Bashir pointed out that the federation has played an active role during the election registration period, and "will encourage women to the full in voting in the coming by-elections."

Phosphate drive aimed at W. Germany

BONN (Petra) — The Arab-West German Friendship Society organised a meeting here Friday to promote the marketing of Jordan's phosphates in Europe.

Addressing the meeting was Jordan's ambassador to West Germany, Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf, who said that relations between West Germany and Jordan have been growing steadily and continuously in a variety of fields.

His Majesty King Hussein's visits to Germany was instrumental in promoting Jordan's economic, cultural, political and social relations with West Germany, Sharif Fawwaz said.

The King, government and people of Jordan appreciate West Germany's economic aid which has helped Jordan to develop in various fields, Sharif Fawwaz said.

West Germany, he said, has helped Jordan in particular to develop its railway system, the Jordan Valley and the port of Aqaba.

West Germany's exports to Jordan have totalled DM 1,000 million so far but West German imports of Jordanian products fall way below the level of exports, Sharif Fawwaz said.

He said that both Germany and Jordanian governments are seeking to increase their exports and Jordan is keen to market Jordanian phosphates in Germany.

The meeting, he explained, was designed to discuss the subject of West German imports of Jordanian phosphates, Sharif Fawwaz added.

At the meeting, which was attended by Jordanian and West German businessmen and economists, the director of the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company, Mr. Wasef Azar, made a speech in which he referred to the importance of phosphates to Jordan's national economy.

It is hoped that West German imports of Jordanian phosphates

will help to adjust the balance of trade between the two countries, he said.

This year Jordan plans to produce nearly six million tonnes of phosphates and therefore is keen to find new markets particularly in West Germany and Western European countries, he said.

These countries import nearly 22 million tonnes of phosphates annually and Jordan hopes to sell them nearly seven per cent of their needs, Mr. Azar said.

Jordanian phosphates are of a very high quality and this enables the substance to be easily used by many European industries, Mr. Azar pointed out.

He also said that the Jordanian government gives priority to companies bidding to carry out projects in Jordan if they pledge to buy or market Jordanian phosphates.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, has learnt that West German factories are planning to import at least 30,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphates this year on an experimental basis.

Fateh dominates lineup of visiting PLO delegation

By Lamin K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The complexion of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) team, which started talks with Jordanian officials Sunday evening, indicates that it is mainly the Fateh movement (PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's power base) and "the independents" that are conducting the dialogue with Jordan.

The only other Palestinian organisation participating in the delegation is the Arab Liberation Front (ALF), a pro-Iraqi Ba'athist Palestinian organisation that has supported Mr. Arafat's line ever since the evacuation of the Palestinian forces from Beirut in August 1982.

The composition of the PLO team reflects the differences that have emerged over Mr. Arafat's policies in the post-Beirut era.

The PLO team in talks, as agreed at top PLO meetings last week in Tunis, comprises three Fateh central committee members: Hani Al-Hassan (also a close political advisor to Mr. Arafat); Mr. Mahmoud Abbas (also a PLO executive committee member); and Brigadier Abdul Razak Al-Yabry (representative of the PLO executive committee in Jordan).

Dr. Hanna Nasser, Hamed Abu Sitheh (both independent members of the PLO executive committee), and Abdul Rahim Ahmad (the leader of the ALF) and its representative at the PLO executive committee.

PLO officials told the Jordan Times that Farouk Al-Kaddoumi, the head of the PLO political department and a Fateh central committee member, was supposed to be included in the team but has not arrived in Amman yet.

They added that Mr. Kaddoumi, who is currently in Kuwait for "a medical check-up", might not be able to join the team to Jordan for "health reasons".

Last week Mr. Kaddoumi visited Syria for the first time since last September and reportedly met with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam "at a private dinner party".

Palestinian sources here told the Jordan Times that Mr. Kaddoumi went to Damascus, where his family lives, "on his own personal initiative" to seek a reconciliation with Syria.

They said that his mission failed when Mr. Khaddam reiterated the Syrian demand "that Mr. Arafat be removed as PLO chairman as a pre-condition for a reconciliation between mainstream Fateh and Syria, a condition that Mr. Kaddoumi reportedly rejected."

During the last round of talks last April, the delegation also included Ahmad Sidki Al-Dajani (an independent member of the PLO executive committee) and Yasser Abed Rabo (the representative of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) as the PLO executive committee).

While the officials did not comment on the absence of Dr. Dajani, the absence of Mr. Abed Rabo reflects the position of the DFLP on the resumption of the talks.

major factors that prompted the PLO rejection of President Reagan's peace initiative.

Mr. Reagan's peace initiative calls for a withdrawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the establishment of Palestinian self-rule there in association with Jordan.

The Reagan peace initiative excludes the PLO from playing any role in any peace negotiations. The PLO position has not undergone any substantial changes since last April, but PLO officials said Saturday that there is "a good basis" for the resumption of the talks.

This basis, they said, includes firstly that both sides agree the major task is to work for an Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967.

Secondly, that Jordan has repeatedly declared its support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and to the Palestinian cause as a whole.

Thirdly, that both sides have no preconditions concerning a peace settlement or plan that can serve as a basis for future joint political moves.

However, the American refusal to recognise the PLO and its failure to affect an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, along with the insufficiencies of the Reagan plan have ruled it out as a viable basis for future political moves, they said.

His Majesty King Hussein has announced on more than one occasion that the Reagan plan "has been frozen."

The officials said that the coming talks are aimed at consolidating bilateral relations on all levels including issues concerning the Palestinian refugees and Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

"We want to enhance the relations regardless of whether a political agreement is reached or not," they said. "Failure to reach a political agreement should by no means lead to total estrangement."

Some Fateh officials, however, told the Jordan Times that a projected Franco-Egyptian peace plan might serve as a good basis for joint Jordanian-PLO future political moves.

A senior Fateh official though said that on the subject answered that "such a plan has not crystallised yet", and went on to accuse the U.S. of trying to block the progress of the formulation of a Franco-Egyptian plan.

Those in Fateh who favour a possible Franco-Egyptian peace plan also envisage joint future moves that will include the PLO, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

Such a suggestion will be faced by opposition from several Fateh central committee members who do not want to close the door to a future reconciliation between Syria and the Fateh leadership and who oppose the idea of forming political axes in the Arab World.

Therefore, the internal dynamics of the PLO and Fateh movement will be important factors that will play a role in the ongoing talks especially now that Fateh is concerned to patch up the differences with the PFLP and DFLP.

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Israel's smokescreen

HIS Majesty King Hussein's and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's talks in Washington during the past two days are warring to Israel, say Israeli officials, not because these talks are taking place between Arab and American leaders, but for the feeling that the U.S., Jordan and Egypt are "doing something" behind Israel's back.

In an apparent show of displeasure at the summit meetings in Washington, the Israeli prime minister, Mr. Shamir, told activists of his Herut Party two days ago that Israel could not be overlooked in any Middle East peace talks. His remark was echoed by a "senior" Israeli official who said yesterday that "Israel makes up 50 per cent of any peace process for the area and it is senseless to devise new formulas without its participation". And the deputy prime minister, David Levy, also took the opportunity to denounce the U.S. decision to withdraw the American Marines from Beirut without first consulting his government and for appearing lukewarm towards the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal agreement of last May 17.

Any rapprochement between the U.S. and Arab World would naturally upset Israel, especially when the Zionist state seeks to define the Middle East within the context of the East-West conflict and insists on portraying the Palestinian issue as a problem of people and not land. But, judging by the feverish pitch of Israeli protests against the three-way summit talks in Washington this week, what is it that is most worrying to the Shamir government in all of this? The revival of the Reagan plan to which Israel is hostile and loath? The re-integration of Egypt in the Arab World? The sale of U.S. weapons to Jordan or the level of American assistance to Egypt? Or what?

Worrying to Israel, we think, are two basic facts, both of which figured prominently in King Hussein's talks with President Reagan yesterday and the day before. First is that the crisis of Lebanon is no more than a manifestation of the Palestinian problem which is the core of all conflict and instability in the Middle East. And second is the more obvious question of keeping open the Arab-American dialogue on pursuing efforts for Middle East peace.

There are of course other dimensions to Israel's displeasure with the Washington talks, and to its loud protests against the likely results of the three leaders' meetings. But whatever the Israeli outward appearance (or thinking) is, the fact remains that the U.S. has to listen, and listen carefully, to what the two Arab leaders have to say.

When the King tells the U.S. president that Lebanon is but a diversion from the real problem in this part of the world, then obviously the U.S. cannot afford to ignore such an enormous fact anymore. And when President Mubarak tells the Americans that the Camp David accords have unstayed their welcome, and usefulness, then obviously he has to be listened to.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Ball in American court

WE WANT the United States to understand two things: That the search for a Middle East peace cannot be handled by Washington alone and that the U.S. administration should put an end to its unlimited support for Israel and its policies in the region. The U.S. has tried to solve the Lebanese question and the Middle East issue without the interference of other powers, and its attempts have ended in failure. It has also condoned Israel's invasion of Lebanon and continued to support its stand and its injustices against the Palestinian people, which led to Washington losing all its credibility in our region.

In his talks with President Reagan, King Hussein has reiterated that Israel has to be forced to succumb to international law and to implement U.N. resolutions concerning the Middle East especially U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. The King made this clear to Mr. Reagan who had made proposals for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict, beginning with a freezing of settlements in the West Bank. Mr. Reagan's proposals were totally rejected by Israel which continued to build settlements and to escalate its campaign to drive the Palestinians from their homeland. The ball is now in the American court and what is needed is serious American recourse to end its invasion of Lebanon and start implementing U.N. Resolutions that guarantee Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

Al Dustour: Abrogation now inevitable

DESPITE ISRAEL'S warnings and threats it has become obvious that the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is inevitable. The real cause of tension in the Lebanese arena and the continued fighting among the factional groups there seemed to be stemming from that agreement. The Lebanese nationalists (freedom fighters) have realised that the safeguarding of Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity cannot be achieved under Israeli hegemony and with the existence of such an agreement, once the agreement is abrogated a lot of tension will be removed and the various factions will have the chance to talk to one another about a future political formula.

Most Lebanese are convinced that the abrogation of the agreement will pave the way for a real reconciliation among the warring factions and a way out of the present deadlock. Whether Israel and the U.S. will be happy with the abrogation or not, is not important since the Lebanese can achieve peace. The United States made a big blunder when it engineered that agreement and a bigger blunder still when it thought that its marines would be able to help Israel carry out its designs in Lebanon. U.S. policies were wrong, as the agreement is now about to be abrogated and the marines have been pulled out to be replaced by U.N. troops to keep the peace in Lebanon.

Sawt Al Shaab: Defensive arms essential

KING HUSSEIN and President Reagan have a host of topics to discuss during their meetings at the White House. Perhaps the most important of these is Jordanian-American relations and the recent developments in the region. Also of vital importance is Israel's occupation of Lebanon and the deadlock in efforts aimed at achieving a just and durable Middle East peace settlement. Indeed U.S. credibility must be considered in the light of U.S. failure to force Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon and to stop building settlements in the occupied Arab regions.

To make things worse in the Middle East, the U.S. has recently concluded a strategic alliance with Israel, thus further encouraging the Zionists state to pursue their goals in the region. In view of these issues, and also the continued Iraq-Iran war, Jordan finds it of vital importance to equip itself with defensive weapons and its quite natural to buy these weapons from the U.S. which has always been Jordan's source of arms. King Hussein's talks with the American president is certain to touch on this sensitive issue because this country, although it seeks peace, wants to deter every possible aggressor and to avoid another disaster in the region.

Different social systems can, should co-exist

Konstantin Chernenko, Monday elected General-Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, wrote this article as an introduction to his collected speeches.

IN BRITAIN today the Soviet stance on various issues is often presented to the public in a distorted light, to put it mildly. The Soviet people and the Soviet Communist Party harbour no secret intentions or malicious designs. We are open to the world.

Naturally, we are mainly concerned with our home affairs. We are concentrating on constructive tasks, such as advancing socialist democracy, developing industry, science and technology, agriculture and culture. Our progress in these fields is truly spectacular. Contrary to our ill-wishers' talk about a "decline of Communism", we take a long stride forward every year. As far as its economic and intellectual potential is concerned the Soviet Union of the 1980 differs strikingly, not only from the young revolutionary Russia of the 1920s, but even from what it was 20 to 30 years ago.

This is not to say that we have no difficulties. They do exist, and the Communist Party frankly admits them. This, incidentally, is what helps the Soviet Union to cope with them successfully and to scale one summit after another in its progress.

My country is getting richer and more advanced culturally, and its people have a higher standard of living than ever before. These are the fruits of the Soviet people's work for themselves and for society in conditions of freedom. In its foreign policy, the Soviet Union attaches top priority to safeguarding and strengthening peace and is determined to end the arms race.

We are in favour of an active and fruitful dialogue with nations living under a different social system to ours, the United States and Great Britain in particular. To work patiently so as to create a climate of trust and accord to earth is what my country is calling

on other nations to do.

The bitter experience of wartime ideals has caused us to be vigilant. The Soviet Union has great military might. We are capable of meeting any challenge effectively. We hope, however, that nobody will be tempted to test the Soviet Union's strength again. We are not seeking military superiority, of course, but we will not concede to any nation gaining such superiority over us.

The USSR and the USA have much to divide them. They adhere to opposite ideological views. In the trying years of the World War II, however, this fact did not prevent the Soviet, American and British peoples becoming staunch allies in the fight against the Axis powers. The Soviet-American dialogue in the 1970s was a major component of the process of détente. Whether the coming years will see co-operation or stiff confrontation between the two great powers is now up to the United States.

Our implicit faith in Communist ideals is rooted in social reality. Of

course, every Soviet citizen has a life path unmistakably his or her own. In one common area, however, the experience of millions of individuals is identical: Socialism, a dynamic and strong social system, is also a fair system, which brings education and culture within reach of all, offers everyone a job of his choice and excellent opportunities for advancement.

My own life story is an example in point. I was born into a large and poor peasant family in the Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia in 1911. I left my mother when I was a young boy. At 12 I went to work for a wealthy master to earn my living. New Soviet life was just coming into its own and I felt its fresh winds when I had joined the Young Communist League. That was back in 1926. We studied and held down our jobs at the same time. We were underfed and poorly clothed, but the dreams of a radiant future for all fascinated us and made us feel happy.

That was a time of tension. Now and then there were press reports about conflicts with foreign in-

ruders raiding Soviet borders. So I volunteered to join the border guards. After some delay my request was granted. I joined the Communist Party in 1931 during my term of service with border troops and was soon elected a party secretary. Nazi Germany's attack on my country found me in the post of secretary of the Krasnoyarsk territorial party committee.

Siberia became one of the nation's arsenals in wartime. Industrial plant evacuated from areas threatened by Nazi invasion had to be promptly brought back into production and geared to the war effort. Thousands of refugee families arrived in Siberia. All had to be accommodated, given jobs and encouragement. We made every effort to relieve their plight.

The year 1943 turned the tide of hostilities in the Soviet theatre of war. After the battle of Stalingrad, victory came into clearer view on the far horizon. It was time the party gave attention to peace-time problems, which were bound to be quite formidable in a country dev-

astated by war. I was sent to advanced training courses for party functionaries under the CPSU Central Committee. Later I served as secretary of the Penza regional party committee and as chief of the propaganda department at the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldavia.

For over two decades now I have served in top party and government jobs in Moscow.

What I wish to say in conclusion is an expression of not only my view, but the view of the Communist Party and the entire Soviet people. Today it is more important than ever before to multiply our efforts towards mutual understanding. The imperative need to preserve peace and to guarantee every nation the right to free and independent development has priority over anything else.

I would like the people of the Soviet Union and Great Britain to be partners in making progress towards these goals. — The Sunday Times.



Gemayel has only two choices?

By Edmond Khleif
Reuter

DAMASCUS — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel has only two choices, according to diplomats in Damascus — to embrace Syrian President Hafez Al Assad as an ally or hope the Americans can somehow restore his grip on his country.

If he opts for the first, the diplomats say, he will survive. To cast his lot with Washington is to gamble.

Western and Arab diplomats in the Syrian capital say President Assad and his Lebanese opposition allies have clearly come out ahead in the battle for Lebanon.

"The Reagan-Assad race is nearing the finish, with the Syrian president well in the lead," one Western diplomat said.

Despite repeated calls for Mr. Gemayel's resignation from opposition figures such as mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) Leader Walid Junblatt, dip-

lomats believe the Lebanese president's removal is not high in the Syrian list of priorities.

"What Mr. Assad wants is to see a friendly Arab neighbour state on his western border, free from any ties or commitments to Israel," one Western diplomat told Reuters.

"If President Gemayel can manage to ensure that, he will always have Syria's blessing and support," he added.

To do so, however, he will have to back demands inimical to Washington — in particular abrogation of the U.S.-sponsored accord on withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon.

Syria and its Lebanese allies see this agreement, signed on May 17 last year, as legitimising the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon by permitting it a continuing role in policing the country's South.

The opposition also wants a bigger role for Lebanon's Muslim communities in government. Under a 1943 agreement, the president always goes to a Maronite Christian, the post of prime min-

ister to a Sunni Muslim and that of National Assembly speaker to a Shi'ite Muslim.

The withdrawal of American marines from their post at Beirut Airport to ships offshore is perceived here as a major victory for Syria and its Lebanese friends.

And while Mr. Reagan has opted for the "big stick" approach by unleashing the might of his naval guns on Syrian-held position around Beirut, Syrian officials assert that he is still seeking a behind-the-scenes agreement with Mr. Assad.

U.S. officials Thursday denied Damascus reports that Mr. Reagan had written to the Syrian President on America's latest moves in Lebanon.

But a Syrian official Friday reaffirmed that U.S. Ambassador to Damascus Robert Paganelli had delivered a letter from Mr. Reagan to Mr. Assad at the American president's request.

"Is there anyone at the White House who writes letters in Reagan's name and addresses heads of state without Reagan's know-

wledge?" he asked reporters.

Syrian officials, and diplomats believe Mr. Reagan will not go as far as a major military confrontation with Syria, given the already heated debate in the U.S. over the American role in Lebanon and with his re-election campaign set to roll.

But the naval bombardment alone will be insufficient to enable Mr. Gemayel's army to restore control over the country, they add.

Diplomats see some of Mr. Assad's remarks to visiting Lebanese politicians as more amenable to Mr. Gemayel remaining in office, if he will accede to the opposition demands.

Since the arrival of three former Lebanese prime ministers in Damascus earlier this week official Syrian media have also referred to the possibility of mending bridges with the Lebanese government, they note.

Mr. Assad told the three moderate former premiers Syria would offer all possible assistance to end the present turmoil in Lebanon.

The bitter grapes of Israeli wrath

By Marc D. Charney
Associated Press

TEL AVIV — For Israelis, last week's events in Lebanon brought home the bitter truth of how little lasting benefit they gained from a military victory there 20 months ago.

When Israeli tanks smashed towards Beirut June 6, 1982, with their alleged declared aim "peace for Galilee," Israel policy-makers had a larger plan:

— Rout the Palestine Liberation Organisation, at the time firmly established in Beirut and southern Lebanon, so it could no longer mount rocket, artillery and infiltration attacks in Israel's northern areas.

— Set up a friendly central Lebanese government willing to sign peace agreements with Israel and capable, through its army, of assuring that guerrillas would not return to the South.

— Get Syria to withdraw its troops from Lebanon.

Today, with Israeli troops still in southern Lebanon, there is relative peace in Galilee. But virtually everything else in the grand plan has come to naught.

Syria, not Israel, is the ascendant political force in Lebanon. Syrian troops remain, powerfully resupplied by the Soviet Union.

Amin Gemayel, even if he remains Lebanon's president, is in no position to make new deals with Israel — or to press Syria to join the one major Israeli-Lebanese pact to come out of the war. Under that U.S.-brokered agreement of May 17, Israel would withdraw its troops if Syria does the same.

Many Israelis believe it is now dead, and this weekend Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir pointedly warned Mr. Gemayel that if he abrogates it, Israel will feel free to do whatever necessary in South Lebanon to secure its northern border.

The Lebanese army, defeated and faced with defections, is in no position to help Israel with security in the South. As late as this month, Israel had hoped the army might at least send a commander

to replace Maj. Saad Haddad atop an Israeli-backed predominantly Christian militia in southernmost Lebanon.

And, even though the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) faction led by Yasser Arafat has been driven from Lebanon, other PLO fighters backed by Syria remain.

Israeli officials have maintained all along that the war's solid gain — increased security from attack by guerrillas based in southern Lebanon — can be preserved without a lasting Israeli presence as soon as a replacement can be found for Lebanon when it invaded that country.

Opposition figures here, and some foreign diplomats, tend to blame the failure of Israel's plan on overreaching by the right-wing government of former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and his then-Defence Minister, Ariel Sharon. These analysts argue that, at bottom, Begin and Sharon failed to understand the Lebanese and the depth of their internal conflicts.

Some Israeli officials cling to the idea they could have achieved their goals with just a little more force — or more U.S. involvement. Privately, some blame their failure to achieve all they wanted on "differences with the United States at crucial points."

One, for example, claims U.S. pressure kept Israeli troops from moving into West Beirut for two months in the summer of 1982. He argues that replacement of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig at the beginning of that period deprived Israel of an understanding friend within the U.S. administration.

But he also describes another point at which Israel's plans went awry — the assassination of Israel's first choice for President Bashir Gemayel, on Sept. 14, 1982.

After the assassination, power shifted to Bashir Gemayel's brother Amin — who, the Israeli official complains, shrank from the Israelis and put his trust solely in the Americans.

LETTERS

For social democracy

To the Editor:

In the interest of "social democracy" (Interview with the Minister of Information, Mrs. Laila Sharaf, Jordan Times, Jan. 29, 1984), I would suggest that the formation of political parties is an issue to be decided by elected representatives. Newspapers should be free to print opinions without fear of reprisal; they are, after all, only opinions. Thirdly, new publications should be encouraged, as a way to involve people in practising democracy. In a free market they will succeed or fail on their own merit.

We must establish democratic institutions and we must trust our people with this responsibility.

Judith Saleh
Marriott Hotel,
P.O. Box 33,
Zamalek, Cairo,
Egypt.

Dear Mr. Television

To the Editor:

While the American Sixth Fleet was bombarding Arab land and people in Lebanon, Jordan Television was on Thursday showing a motion picture about the heroic deeds of U.S. servicemen during World War II.

It is not that we do not wish to appreciate the American role in confronting the Nazis, but I think that it is most unfitting and simply a choice of poor taste to show that film, specifically when JTV's leading news story that Thursday evening was on the U.S. bombardment of the Lebanese Shouf area.

I do not think JTV policy-makers have a reasonable justification for such an unfortunate incident.

Usama Abdul Karim,
Amman.

Still dismantling Franco's legacy

By Brian Mooney
Reuter

MADRID — Almost nine years after ascending what looked like Europe's shakiest throne, King Juan Carlos feels confident that he has established a lasting constitutional monarchy in Spain.

The king, who asks that visitors do not quote him directly, acknowledges to friends that the odds were against him when he became head of state after right-wing dictator General Francisco Franco died in November 1975.

Named by Gen. Franco as his successor, Juan Carlos set about dismantling the dictator's one-party authoritarian system and replacing it with parliamentary democracy.

Friends say that Juan Carlos never believed as a young man that he would become king because he could not imagine the Spanish people would want him.

He admits his conversion to democracy was gradual but in the eyes of his subjects he proved his commitment on the night of Feb. 23, 1981, by playing a decisive role in foiling an army coup attempt.

Some three years after the abortive putsch, the 46-year-old king says he has not the slightest grounds for pessimism over Spain's political future.

The king's confidence was boosted by the smooth transition from centre-right to Socialist government when Prime Minister Fel-

position as chief of the armed forces is thought by many to have been the most important factor in the success of Spain's transition to democracy.

The king has used his position to persuade the armed forces, reared on the legacy of what Gen. Franco called his crusade against the left, to come to terms with democracy and accept change.

Recently, he has backed plans by the Socialist government to modernise and reshape the armed forces. But he remains scrupulously apolitical in public on all major issues, making clear that his views conform with his constitutional duty to support government policy.

He never allows his private views to impinge on the government although he is understood to be anxious that Spain continues to be a member of NATO.

People who talk to the king privately say he has an impressive knowledge of all aspects of the country and its government. He is also widely travelled and keenly interested in foreign affairs.

He reads all the daily press from the left-wing to the extreme right and keeps in touch with politicians from all parties, including the Communists.

The king is painfully aware of the violence in the Basque country generated by separatist guerrillas and feels strongly that the state can only respond with firmness. But he appears philosophical

about the prospects of ending the violence and reckons it could take 10 or even 15 years.

Friends say Juan Carlos was somewhat perturbed by Spain's division into 17 autonomous regions although he feels that the process is not threatening as long as the regions remain loyal to the crown.

The king, who sees the monarchy both as a symbol and guardian of national unity, takes pride in the fact that even the radical Basque nationalist coalition Herri Batasuna refrains from attacking him personally.

The point is that anti-monarchism has almost zero political appeal in a country which has come to identify its liberal 1978 constitution with the person of the king.

Juan Carlos, who is married to Sophia, sister of ex-King Constantine of Greece, has also created a sporty and relaxed image of the Spanish monarchy. The royal couple have a son and heir, Prince Felipe, and two daughters.

Protocol is at a minimum at the small and unpretentious Zarzuela Palace outside Madrid where the king makes his visitors feel instantly at home with his humour and engaging charm.

He is even less formal on the ski slopes or at his favourite sport of racing ocean yachts, in which he admits to being good at the difficult feat of helming down wind in rough weather — because, he says, he doesn't get scared.



Juan Carlos and Sophia
Ipe Gonzalez took office 14 months ago.



Every word was once a poem;
Each began as a picture.

PAMPHLET: named from a poem.

In the 12th century a Latin poem called *Phamphilius* appeared, the Greek word *pamphilus* meaning "loved by all". This tremendously popular and widely distributed poem was given the nickname *pamphlet*, and later on any similar, thin, paper-covered type of book was called a *pamphlet*, which was finally shortened to *pamphlet*.

VERNACULAR: a word came from a slave.

When we use the vernacular we are not as a rule talking like learned folks or highbrows. We are more apt to be speaking the everyday and native language of an area or a country. The word *vernacular* is built upon the Latin word *vernaculus*, meaning "native" or "domestic", from *verna*, a slave born at home, a household slave, a native. The vernacular literature which developed in Europe late in the 13th century, then, was literature in the native dialects rather than in the learned language used by scholars, which was, of course, Latin.

SYMPOSIUM: originally meant they drank together.

This interesting word is based on the Greek term *symposium*, from *syn-*, "together," and *pino*, "drink". The old Greeks held their symposiums after dinner when they would drink wine together and mix entertainment with intellectual conversation. The dialogues of the Greek philosopher Plato, which he called the *Symposium*, is an imagined conversation at such a gathering. And so with a *symposium* has come to mean a collection of comments, opinions, and short essays — especially several articles on the same subject by different writers — as in a pamphlet or magazine.

INK: burned in.

A simple letter ancestor that meant "a branding iron." The ancient Greeks used to cauterise a wound as we do, and the grandparent word of cauterise is *kauterion*, a "branding iron". The Greeks not only sealed wounds with heat, but they used much the same process in art for sealing fast the colours of their paintings. It was customary then to use wax colours fixed with heat or, as they expressed it *encaustum*, "burned in". In Latin, this word changed into *encastum*, and it became the name for a kind of purple ink that the emperors used when they signed their official documents. In old French *encastum* became *enque*. English adopted the word as *enque* or *enke* — and so we have our ink. — Ahmad Jaber

American private enterprise hungry for rocket-launching money

Private enterprise is hoping to break into the worldwide government monopoly for launching rockets. Peter March reports.

"UNDER certain conditions, the manufacture of (rockets) might be profitable. Such conditions might develop in a few decades."

So wrote Mr. Hermann Oberth, a pioneering German space engineer, in a book published in 1923.

Today, a small group of technologists and business people in the U.S. are trying to prove the truth of Mr. Oberth's forecast.

These people want to challenge the near monopoly in the rocket business of governments. The launch pioneers were encouraged by President Reagan who in his "State of the Union" speech last month urged more private investment in space activities.

By the end of the 1980s, up to half a dozen private companies may vie with each other by operating "launch taxis" that take into orbit satellites for jobs such as communications, at a cost of about \$25 million a satellite.

Since the Soviet Union blasted the first Sputnik into space in 1957, mankind has orbited 3,000 or so satellites.

Nearly all have been put into the heavens by launchers owned by government agencies. In the U.S. the state organisation is the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Companies anxious to sell space launches to customers range from

giants such as General Dynamics to small fry whose designs for new rockets are still on the drawing board.

The most unusual of the newcomers is Truax Engineering, of Saratoga, California. The company has spent \$600,000 on a rocket called *Excalibur*. This would take a 40-tonne object into a low orbit a couple of hundred kilometres above the earth.

Mr. Fell Peters, a 25-year-old artist who is one of the company's founders, says he intends to demonstrate *Excalibur's* prowess in an unusual way.

Some time after 1985, he plans to journey into space himself aboard the rocket, so becoming the world's first "private enterprise" astronaut.

The more conventional approach to rockets is typified by Transpace Carriers of Washington D.C.

In 1985, the company is to take over from NASA the marketing of the Delta rocket, which the government has operated since 1961.

Transpace carriers were formed 18 months ago by David Grimes. NASA's project manager for the Delta programme.

The company will continue to buy the launchers from McDonnell Douglas, which makes them under contract to the gov-

ernment. It will also have to rent from NASA launch facilities on rocket ranges in Florida or California.

In a similar deal with NASA, General Dynamics will sell from 1987 a rocket called the *Atlas Centaur*. General Dynamics already builds the devices at a plant in California, though responsibility for selling and launching the rockets rests with the government.

A more visionary approach is that of Space Services, a group of Texan entrepreneurs. The company plans to put into space its Conestoga rocket not from government launch pads but from a new rocket station in Hawaii.

Mr. David Hannah, the company's chairman, is negotiating with the Hawaiian state government to buy land near the town of Waialua.

Two factors are behind the drive by U.S. commercial groups to enter the rocket business.

First, space planners predict no let-up in the rate at which countries and commercial organisations want to inject satellites above the earth, in particular into the geostationary orbit 36,000 kilometres high that is used by communications vehicles.

Arianespace, the Paris-based company that operates the West European Ariane rocket, predicts that between 1985 and 1991 more than 250 satellites will enter orbit. Some 85 per cent will take up pos-

itions in the geostationary ring. Such forecasts indicate that companies may be able to make money from rocket launches.

Secondly, the U.S. government has encouraged companies to become involved in the space business.

President Reagan's administration wants to transfer to private companies as much as possible of the space technologies that the U.S. government has developed over the past couple of decades.

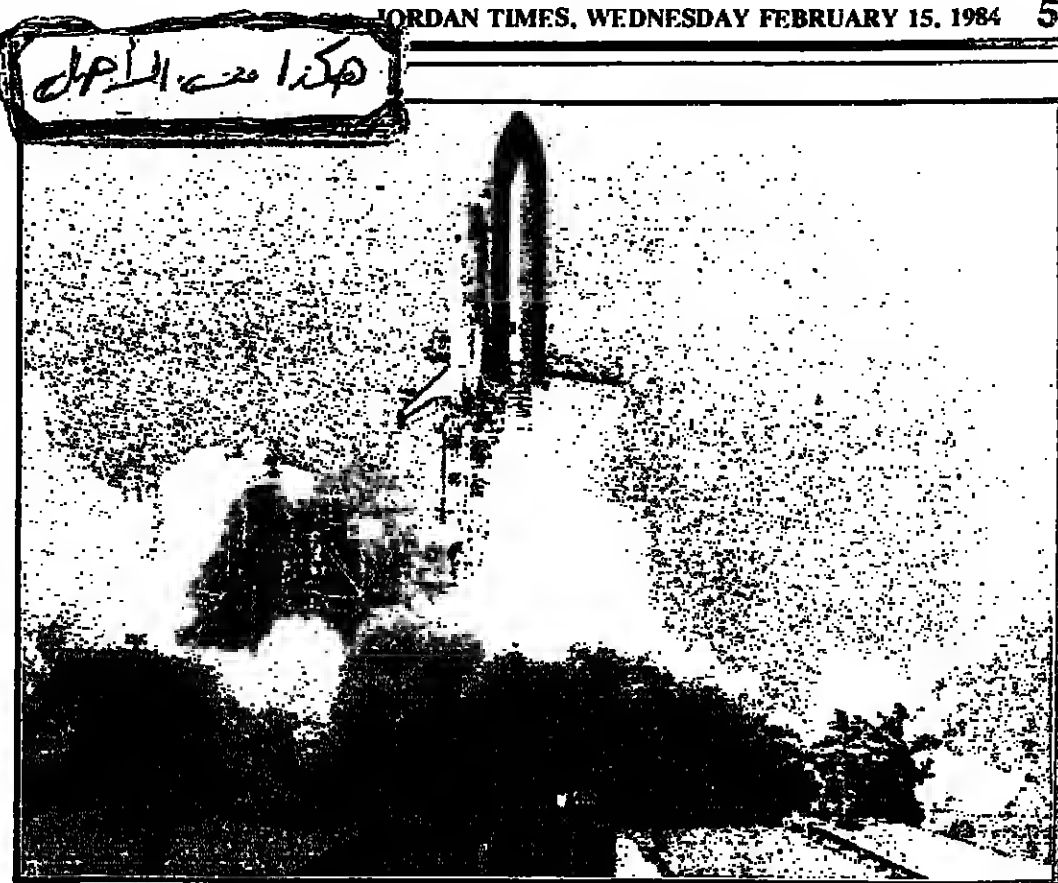
Government officials point to the example of communications satellites, on which state agencies did much of the early development work but which are now routinely operated privately.

For example, the U.S. Department of Commerce last month invited bids from industry to administer the government Landsat remote-sensing satellites. These scan the earth from several hundred kilometres to provide information about, for example, crop growth or mineral deposits.

The government's plans are backed by officials at NASA itself, which has supported technically some of the companies that want to sell rockets.

Mr. James Beggs, the administrator (director) of NASA, says that his organisation should concentrate on new ideas rather than operate proven technology.

Ultimately, says Mr. Beggs, NASA should even hand over to



SPACELAB lift-off — The first flight of Spacelab begins as it is launched inside the cargo bay of Columbia at the Kennedy Space Centre.

private agencies the operation of the space shuttle, the technically advanced though highly expensive launch vehicle that NASA developed at a cost of \$15 billion.

Unlike all other launchers, which are destroyed in the process of taking their payloads into orbit, the shuttle is reusable.

A large proportion of the complete launch system can be recovered. This includes the orbiter itself and the winged "space plane" that carries satellites plus a crew of up to six.

At present, running the shuttle is a recipe for losing money. Each mission that a shuttle flies in 1984 will cost about \$125 million.

Of this, the government will recoup at the most about \$40 million in fees from customers who pay for satellites to be ferried into orbit.

By 1989, according to NASA's plans, a combination of price increases and reductions in cost should make the shuttle pay for itself or show a modest profit.

NASA hopes to decrease costs by increasing the launch rate. From four flights last year, NASA plans 10 in 1984, rising to 24 in 1988.

By next year, the state body will operate a total of four shuttles. Discovery and Atlantis will join Columbia and Challenger.

Dr. Klaus Heiss, a champion of private enterprise in space, is best known for his efforts to buy for \$1 billion a fifth shuttle that would be privately owned.

The scheme fizzled out last year after Dr. Heiss failed to prove that the fifth vehicle would find enough work in lifting satellites into orbit.

"It's terribly important that we adopt a more market oriented approach to space technologies," he says. "We should bring about the commercial uses of space with funds other than those provided by the taxpayer."

Dr. Heiss's latest role is as chairman of Sparx, a joint venture in New York between Comsat of the U.S. and MBB, the West German aerospace company.

Sparx will sell to customers room on a small platform called Spas that MBB developed. The platform, which a space shuttle will take into orbit for trips of up to several months, will carry remote-sensing instruments or

experiments in materials processing.

This endeavour illustrates the co-operation in space between Western Europe and the U.S. For example, the European Space Agency contributed the Spacelab orbiting laboratory that a shuttle took into orbit in November.

But in other ways America and Western Europe are deadly rivals in space technology.

Arianespace, which is backed by a consortium of European industries and government agencies, complains that the U.S. government subsidies on operating the shuttle give NASA an unfair advantage.

The Paris company charges about \$25 million for a launch into the geostationary orbit of a 1.2 tonne satellite. This is about \$10 million less than the cost of hiring a shuttle to do the same job.

The two figures should, however, come more into line after NASA puts up its shuttle prices in October next year.

As more companies develop rockets, the business should become more competitive. Companies will order rockets on the basis of performance and marketing, not just on price.

Looked at in this way, everyone can see a reason why his launch vehicle is better than the others. For example, the shuttle carries several astronauts, who in theory can tend to technical failures, making launch failures less likely.

The increase in rocket companies can only be good for the space business, say most observers. "It's such a large market that there will be room for everyone," enthuses Mr. Dennis Ahearn of Transpace carriers. "We are seeing the beginnings of a new commercial era in space." — Financial Times news feature.

IRA bomb maker likely to be festival marshal

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuter

NEW YORK — Michael O'Rourke has been an unwilling resident of New York City for the past four and a half years.

On the whole, the red-bearded Dubliner told a visitor to his jail the other day, he would rather be in Philadelphia with his wife and friends.

But while O'Rourke is just a prisoner with a number now, he may be named this week to be honorary grand marshal of New York's St. Patrick's Day parade next month, one of the highest honours New York's Irish can bestow.

O'Rourke, a convicted Irish Republican Army (IRA) bomb maker who blew his way out of a Dublin jail before fleeing to the United States, will not be allowed to go to the parade if he so honoured.

He will have to stay in his cell in the metropolitan correctional centre on March 17, unless the government manages to deport him by then for entering the United States illegally.

"I really haven't seen much of New York. From my cell I can see part of the Brooklyn Bridge and when I was taken here, the marshals detoured to show me the Statue of Liberty. I was in manacles at the time and didn't get much out of it," he said.

The O'Rourke case is a celebrated one in Irish Republican circles, a point not lost on Michael Flannery, the pro-IRA 81-year-old grand marshal of last year's St. Patrick's parade.

"I believe we will be naming Michael O'Rourke as honorary grand marshal. It's finding a grand marshal that we are having troubles with," Mr. Flannery told Reuter.

There are three candidates, each vying for Republican support, and Irish American groups meet on Wednesday to choose one. The Irish government and the city's Roman Catholic leaders may boycott the parade for a second consecutive year if an ultra-Republican is elected.

Mr. O'Rourke has his own story. He was in the IRA — he wants to stay in the United States, but as a free man.

He was probably the IRA's best bomb maker in the early 1970s, before being arrested in Dublin in 1975.

"I made between 700 and 1,000 mortars and rockets for use against British troops in Northern Ireland. I'd only known when they were used when I read the papers," he said.

"What I did was not directed against civilians, only British troops. If I fought against the Communists in Afghanistan or against the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, I'd have no troubles staying here," he added in a jailhouse interview.

With IRA help, the 31-year-old O'Rourke blew his way out of a Dublin courthouse in July 1976, finding himself hunted not only for escaping but for possible involvement with the IRA's killing of British ambassador to Dublin, Christopher Ewart-Biggs, a crime O'Rourke insists he had nothing to do with.

Ireland was in a state of panic after the Ewart-Biggs assassination and Mr. O'Rourke said, "There was no doubt if I had been caught I would have been killed or convicted by a special court for

killing Ewart-Biggs."

He added that he had nothing to do with Ewart-Biggs and the Irish government never claimed he did, but the IRA got O'Rourke to the United States, which he entered using a false passport.

After two years in Philadelphia, Mr. O'Rourke was arrested for illegally entering the country and refused bail.

The first immigration court judge he came before indicated he would rule in Mr. O'Rourke's favour and according to Mr. O'Rourke's lawyers was intimidated to the point where he withdrew.

Two days after Judge Ernest Hupp told his court he was inclined to let Mr. O'Rourke stay, the judge said he was followed in his car for 200 kilometres by two men.

The judge thought they were IRA men, but investigating police discovered they were actually agents from a special immigration department, who claimed they were checking a report that Mr. Hupp had left work early.

Mr. Hupp withdrew from the case and a new judge ruled against Mr. O'Rourke's plea to stay in the

U.S. with his American wife Margaret, whom he met in Philadelphia.

At a U.S. court of appeals hearing in New York last week, his lawyer called the Hupp shadowing "government misconduct so severe that this court should vacate this case."

But the judges argued from the bench that the Hupp incident was moot because Mr. O'Rourke later received a fair trial.

Philadelphia Congressman Robert Borski has introduced a bill in Congress to let Mr. O'Rourke stay if the court of appeals rules against him, as even his supporters now say appears likely.

Meanwhile, Mr. O'Rourke finds himself the longest serving prisoner in the Metropolitan Correctional Centre, which opened nine years ago and was designed for short-term prison stays.

He has developed into a jailhouse lawyer, helping other prisoners write letters in their defence and pursue their cases.

"I am amazed at the low quality of American education. Some people here can't read or write," he said.

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Julen gives Switzerland first Olympic gold medal

SARAJEVO (R) — Max Julen put Switzerland on the Winter Games map Tuesday by claiming the Olympic giant slalom title — first event of the weather-delayed men's Alpine ski programme.

The big Swiss team had drawn a blank over six previous days of competition but Julen put that right by edging out home hope Jurij Franko for the gold medal.

Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein, silver medalist at the 1980 Lake Placid games, took the bronze despite stumbling near the end of the second run.

Gaetan Boucher also achieved a "first" when he became the only Canadian to win an Olympic speed skating gold medal.

Boucher dominated the men's 1,000 metres test and his American hero Eric Heiden, now retired, was among the first to congratulate him.

Heiden captured all five men's titles in Lake Placid, but Boucher's performance Tuesday put the Canadian in a class of his own. He left Soviet skater Sergei Khlebnikov to pick up the silver medal, nearly a second behind, with Norway's Kai Arne Engstrand third.

There were several big-name casualties in the giant slalom. The list included World Cup overall leader Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland and Austrian Hans Enn, the 1981 bronze medalist. Both went out on the first leg of the 56-gate course.

The rated Mahre twins did not

challenge either, in spite of the one-two success of U.S. compatriots Debbie Armstrong and Christina Cooper in the women's giant slalom on Monday.

Phil Mahre, World Cup overall champion for the last three seasons, was eighth and brother Steve

Lendl taken off U.N. black list

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations special committee against apartheid said Monday that Czech tennis star Ivan Lendl is back in its good graces because he has promised not to compete again in South Africa.

The committee said it had removed Lendl's name from its "black list" of athletes who have played in South Africa. The decision was made after Czech representatives at the U.N. reported that Lendl had been reprimanded, banned from representing Czechoslovakia for a year and fined for appearing in a tennis tournament in Sun City, Bophuthatswana last July.

Lendl "expressed profound regret, accepted the imposed penalties and pledged not to allow a similar mistake to occur in the future," the Czech mission said. The mission claimed Lendl had

trailed home 17th.

The one big name missing from the line-up was slalom king Ingemar Stenmark. The Swede was unable to defend his crown because of his professional status.

Eirik Kvalfoss of Norway claimed the 10 km biathlon crown, an esoteric event which combines cross-country skiing and fixed target shooting.

But Kvalfoss' victory was no St. Valentine's day massacre — West German Peter Angerer, the 20 km champion, was only just behind.

Wimbledon champion hits out at Olympic tennis plan

SYDNEY (R) — Wimbledon champion John McEnroe criticised plans to stage exhibition tennis at this year's Los Angeles Olympic Games when he arrived here Tuesday for a tournament.

McEnroe, who has lifted the Grand Prix Masters title and the U.S. professional indoor crown within the last month, hit out at the procedure being used to reintroduce tennis at the games, which he said was "totally wrong."

And he labelled the staging of the exhibition tournament with a mixture of amateur and professional players under the age of 21 as "a step in the wrong direction."

McEnroe, who will be taking part in a \$400,000 round robin challenge tournament here, said he could not understand why the tournament in Los Angeles had been limited by an age bracket. And he said he was opposed to professionals and amateurs playing alongside each other.

"I cannot understand the thinking behind the set-up," he said. "To me, it's totally wrong the way it has been handled."

Maxwell pulls out of United takeover bid

LONDON (R) — Robert Maxwell confirmed Tuesday that he had given up hope of taking over famous English first division soccer club Manchester United.

Maxwell, currently chairman of third division Oxford United, felt the £15m (\$21,150,000) it would have cost him to buy control of the

"Tennis has been a professional sport for so long and the Olympics is amateur. It would be nice to see tennis in the Olympics but I cannot understand the way those involved have gone about it."

Tennis is due to be introduced as a full Olympic sport at the Seoul Games in 1988.

The four-day tournament which begins here Wednesday also includes Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl, Sweden's Mats Wilander, who could take part in Los Angeles, and Argentine Guillermo Vilas, who recently had a 12-month suspension lifted.

In 1983 Vilas was fined \$20,000 and suspended for a year after allegedly receiving \$60,000 to play in a Grand Prix event in Rotterdam in March.

But after a lengthy appeal the suspension, imposed by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, was lifted last month.

Vilas said Tuesday he was still bitter about the affair. "For six months I was practising every day, but I did not know what for," he said.

Keegan to quit soccer at end of current season

NEWCASTLE, England (AP) — Kevin Keegan, one of Britain's best-known soccer players of the last decade, is to quit the game at the end of the current season.

The former England captain, announcing his retirement on his 33rd birthday Tuesday, said he wanted "to quit at the top and I really feel I'm still there."

Keegan, a former European Footballer of the Year, played for England 64 times in a glittering 16-year career which began at third division Scunthorpe United and took him to Liverpool — where he made his name — SV Hamburg of West Germany, Southampton and Newcastle.

In his six years at Liverpool, he won three English League championship titles, the European Cup of Champions, two UEFA Cup trophies and the English F.A. Cup.

His final game for Liverpool was perhaps his finest hour — victory over Borussia Mönchengladbach in the 1977 European Cup of Champions final in Rome.

Keegan, idolised by the fans wherever he went, moved to second division Newcastle in August, 1982, and quickly established a rapport with the northeast team's supporters, among the most fanatical in the country.

A consistent marksman throughout his dazzling career, his 18 goals this season have put Newcastle among the leading contenders for promotion to Division One.

Keegan was expected to move on again when his contract with Newcastle expired at the end of this season and had been linked with second division Portsmouth on the English south coast.

He said, however, he wanted to spend more time at home in Hampshire — where his family has lived since his days with Southampton but which lies at the opposite end of the country to



Kevin Keegan, Britain's best known footballer and former European Footballer of the Year is to quit at the end of the season.

Newcastle. Son of Yorkshire steel worker, Keegan — one of the richest sportsmen in Britain — suffered perhaps one lone disappointment.

After guiding England through the qualifying stages of the last World Cup, he led England to the 1982 finals in Spain.

But after injury his back, he was ruled out of all but a few minutes of England's second round matches.

"But I intend to go flat out between now and the rest of the season," he added.

His team failed to reach the semi-finals and Keegan never played for his country again.

Leonard's comeback bout postponed due to surgery

WORCESTER, Massachusetts (AP) — Sugar Ray Leonard underwent "preventative surgery" on his right eye Monday, making it necessary to postpone his Feb. 25 comeback bout against Kevin Howard, the fight's promoter said.

"Because of the work (surgery) Ray would not be able to train for 10 days to two weeks. We had no alternative but to postpone (the fight)," said promoter Dan Doyle.

Leonard, former welterweight champion, retired from boxing in November 1982, after he had surgery that may to repair the partially detached retina of his left eye. He announced his comeback last December.

Leonard was examined Monday by Dr. Edward Ryan of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston, and "his left eye passed," said a source close to Leonard.

But Ryan found the need for

preventative operation for the other eye and according to the source told Leonard: "You can do it now or wait until after the fight."

"Let's do it now," Leonard was quoted as saying.

The surgery took five or six minutes, the source said, and Ryan told him to rest for at least 10 days.

Ryan was not immediately available for comment, nor was Leonard or trainer Mike Trainer.

Howard, reached by telephone at a Philadelphia hotel, said, "my reaction is not to let it frustrate me and keep me out of training."

"I'll keep training. It could be he's playing a little trick. It might not be an injury — just a trick to throw me off guard and keep me from training," Howard said.

Davis, who has a 23-3 professional record, will be having his second title tilt. He was stopped by World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight champion Dwight Muhammad Qawi (Braxton) in November, 1982.

Spinks, unbeaten in 24 professional bouts with 17 knockouts, wanted his fight with Davis to be over 15 rounds, the WBA title distance. But he agreed to abide by a World Boxing Council (WBC) edict which restricts its title fights to 12 rounds.

If Spinks beats Davis, he is due to meet Qawi in April.

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Giles appointed WBA manager

LONDON (R) — Johnny Giles, the former Leeds and Ireland midfielder player, has been appointed manager of English first division soccer club West Bromwich Albion (WBA) for the second time.

Giles, who in two years as player-manager led the club into the first division in 1976 and then into Europe the following year, replaces Ron Wylie, who resigned Monday.

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Europarlament delays vote on refund to U.K.

STRASBOURG (R) — The European Parliament over-rode the united opposition of British Conservatives and Socialists Monday when it postponed a vote concerning Britain's 1983 community budget refund.

The assembly, which froze the \$640 million payment last December, had been seeking rule changes to give more control over how the money was spent after it was unfrozen.

But European Commissioner Antonio Giorli told parliament he did not agree with some of the rule changes sought by the assembly and the house then postponed a final vote on the rules until Friday to let the commission produce compromise proposals.

Parliament froze the refund, plus a smaller amount for West Germany, at least until the end of March to put pressure on community governments to bridge their differences over badly-needed long-term financial ref-

orms.

Parliament wants to limit payments from the rebate allocations to a maximum of half the cost of schemes involving employment, transport and energy. This compared with a 70 per cent ceiling suggested by the commission.

To prevent the rebate simply being sucked into general treasury funds, parliament is also seeking to restrict rebate payments to schemes begun after Jan. 1, 1983 and to reduce the powers of a management committee of member states' and commission representatives.

British Conservative Lord Dore said many worthy projects would be prevented from winning help from the rebate by the proposed date limit.

The British Labour group's budget spokesman, Mr. Richard Balf, accused continental members of plotting and conniving to hold up the budget rebate.

Report says threat of global food scarcity seems remote

ROME (R) — A report prepared for the U.N. World Food Council says some of the dire predictions made a decade ago about world food scarcity were wrong and the threat of a global food crisis now seems remote.

The 32-page report, an independent assessment by seven academics and food experts, will be used as a discussion paper at an informal seminar of statesmen and food experts beginning Tuesday at Bellagio in northern Italy.

The report says that although chronic hunger still affects millions, the major assumption made at the 1974 World Food Conference — that rising demand due to population growth would outpace cereal production — has not proved correct.

It said that since 1975 there has been a substantial recovery in world cereal production and grain

reserves and that market prices for cereals have been relatively low.

"Many of the assumptions... have proven to be ill-founded. The major assumption that has not been borne out was that the world was entering a period of tight food supplies globally and hence rising prices," it said.

"The threat of global food scarcity now seems remote, although the possibility of major production shortfalls is still in evidence," it said.

It said bumper world production levels in 1981 and 1982 brought record surpluses and the

lowest real market prices for cereals in 30 years.

Despite relatively stable food prices, international agricultural trade had been marked by "the disruptive influence of international market instability."

The potential for mass regional famine had been largely eliminated, if a stricken country was willing to accept aid, and the international response process had greatly improved.

Attention shifts to Africa

However, chronic hunger was still a problem for many millions of people and distribution of world food resources was still one of the most formidable problems, the report said.

Over the last decade international attention to food and hunger had shifted from Asia to

Africa.

Although Asia still had the largest absolute number of poor and chronically undernourished, it had made great progress in increasing production and reducing dependency, the report said.

"Africa... seems to be living out the 1974 fears. Food production has fallen well behind population needs, and external food supply has become increasingly essential," it said.

The report said hunger could only be conquered when the world's undernourished "have access to meaningful employment and income-generating opportunities," mostly through greater output and production in local agricultural sectors.

It said direct measures were still needed to provide food for the poor and undernourished.

Ford profits \$1.87b

DEARBORN, Michigan (R) — The Ford Motor Company said Monday that it had returned to profitability in 1983, with a net profit of \$1.87 billion compared to losses of \$658 million the previous year. The recovery was so substantial that 1983 profits exceeded those of 1979 — the last profitable year before the current recession. Ford said the return to profitability occurred "despite the fact that our unit sales in 1983 were almost one million units lower than in 1979."

Substantial cost-cutting measures over the past few years were partly responsible for the turn-around, Ford said. Ford said its overseas operations continued to be profitable in 1983, netting \$351 million against \$461 million the year before. But much of the 1983 recovery was due to the company's US operations, where a net profit of \$1.52 billion followed a 1982 loss of \$1.12 billion, it added. Ford said US sales in 1983 rose 28 per cent to \$28.4 billion and sales of its overseas operations went up three per cent to \$16.1 billion.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until early in the afternoon make a point to get everything in your mind organized and be prepared to put in effect immediately, early morning brings confusion.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You find it difficult to express your talents early in the day. Choose your companions wisely.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Solve problematic affair at home and then home life works out to your liking. Apply yourself. Be happy.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You get letters that are not pleasing in the morning. Strive for a safer way of living. See to it that windows and doors are guarded.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study plans to add to present abundance before you make any new investments. Make sure your credit is good.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You find it difficult to gain personal wishes in the morning. Get into satisfying social pleasures. Increase popularity and happiness.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't get so involved in small affairs that you may lose out on. A conversation with your mate can help you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Contact friends who can give you support for your ventures. Avoid one who is jealous of you and has an eye on your assets.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Your outside affairs may not be going as you wish in the morning, but after lunch it is possible to make headway. Rest tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have good ideas but cannot get them operating until after lunch. New contacts are better made in the afternoon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study your position before making plans to pay bills. Tonight is fine for romantic pleasures with the one you love.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Although you can accomplish much today, you find it rather a slow process. Listen to a co-worker on how to be more efficient.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have a fine talent that needs perfecting now. Later, enjoy pleasure in the company of kin and friends. Be happy.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who can get ahead fast upon reaching maturity, provided that a fine education is given. Include philosophy, psychology, and foreign languages. There is a fine flair for writing in this chart.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed firm, having started on an easier note, and at 1510 GMT the F.T. index was up 7.8 at 810.8 and the London stock exchange 100-share index at 1025.4 was up 7.1.

The initial easier trend reflected Monday's setback on Wall Street but was followed by moderate selective demand after early light selling interest ran its course, dealers said.

Grand Met finished 15p higher at 360 after higher quarterly sales figures. Government bonds showed gains ranging to about 3/4 point, gold shares finished above lows and North American stocks were lower.

London Brick ended 11p up at 162 after increased bid terms from Hanson Trust which closed 5p off at 163 while Fleet Holdings was 6p up at 181 following the half-year statement.

ICI was 10p higher at 598 and Racal was also 10p up at 200 while fresh speculative demand was helped T.I. group. House of Fraser and Chubb.

Banks gained up to 5p and in mixed insurances Phoenix was 8p up at 488 extending Monday's speculative rise. Continental Corp of the U.S., which has a 24 per cent stake in Phoenix, denied rumours it has sold the shares to a potential bidder. In minings de Beers was 17 cents off at 800 after 790.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4158/6H	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2477/8H	Canadian dollars
	2.7423/33	West German marks
	3.0920/30H	Dutch guilders
	2.2390/24H	Swiss francs
	56.15/19	Belgian francs
	8.4415/45	French francs
	1687.50/1688.50	Italian lire
	234.50/60	Japanese yen
	8.1050/11H	Swedish crowns
	7.7700/5H	Norwegian crowns
	4.9830/8H	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	375.15/375.65	U.S. dollars

France reduces oil imports from M.E.

PARIS (Agencies) — France sharply reduced its 1983 crude oil imports from the Middle East, particularly from Saudi Arabia, as part of a diversification plan aimed at improving the security of French energy supplies, an oil industry report showed Tuesday.

While remaining France's principal source of crude oil, Middle East imports dropped to 25.5 million tonnes, or 43.1 per cent of total crude imports, in 1983 from 39.1 million tonnes (57.9 per cent) in 1982, according to a report by the French Petroleum Industry Association.

In 1979 the Middle East supplied 76.2 per cent of crude oil imported for French needs. French imports of Saudi crude fell by almost half and now account for less than a quarter of total crude imports, from supplying

more than half France's total needs in 1981.

The major beneficiaries of the decision to reduce dependence on the Middle East are producers in Africa, particularly Nigeria, and Europe and the North Sea.

Total crude oil imports for France needs in 1983 fell 12.4 per cent to 59.1 million tonnes from 67.5 million in 1982.

Meanwhile, Indonesia will step up its exports of non-oil products to France in a bid to correct the trade balance between the two countries, Trade Minister Rachmat Saleh said in Jakarta.

Indonesia's export to France include textiles, plywood, palm oil and rubber, while its imports consist mainly of aeronautic equipment and capital goods for projects being developed with French assistance.

London stock market launches new index

LONDON (R) — The London stock market Monday launched a new index to monitor stock movements as they happen, unlike the traditional Financial Times (F.T.) 30-share index which has been the main investors' aid for 50 years. The new barometer, known as the 100-share index, mirrors the movements of 100 top stocks and is updated constantly like indices already operating in New York and other international financial centres.

The F.T. 30 index is updated hourly. The new indicator will also open the way for the London international financial futures exchange to give investors a chance to bet on market movements through a futures contract.

The Financial Times, a business daily, is to continue operating its 30-share index, said a stock exchange spokesman, as well as its other indices like the all-share index of 747 stocks, which is updated after the close of trading each day.

Talks are continuing on whether the Financial Times name will be used for the new index which is composed mainly of the largest 100 companies measured by their market valuation.

The 100-share index, whose base of 1,000 was calculated on Jan. 3, the first trading day of 1984, opened Monday at 1,018.

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. agrees to give Egypt \$200m in cash

CAIRO (R) — Washington has agreed to allocate part of its \$2.2 billion in economic and military aid to Egypt in cash, minister of investment and international co-operation Mr. Wagih Shindi was quoted by two Cairo papers as saying Monday. Mr. Shindi was quoted as saying the U.S. government had agreed to allocate \$200 million of its overall 1985 aid scheme in cash instead of channeling it directly into specific projects. The \$2.2 billion aid programme announced earlier this month makes Egypt the second largest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel.

Algeria to host global energy conference

ALGIERS (AP) — 400 delegates from nearly 80 countries will participate in an executive council meeting of the World Energy Conference in Algiers Sept. 22-24, Algerian officials announced Monday. The meeting will be preceded by three days of meetings by various committees.

S. Arabia, Skanska sign \$74m contract

BAHRAIN (R) — The Saudi Arabian government has signed a \$74 million contract with Sweden's Skanska Company for the construction of a 500-bed hospital in Jeddah, Swedish embassy officials said Tuesday. Saudi officials said the hospital would provide the best medical services in Jeddah and the surrounding areas.

Soviet grain imports may rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union is expected to import 31 million tonnes of grain in 1983-84, one million tonnes more than had been predicted, the U.S. Agriculture Department said Monday. But the imports for the year that will end on June 30, still will be down slightly from the 32.5 million tonnes the Soviets bought from foreign sources in 1982-83 and far below the record imports of 46 million tonnes in 1981-82. According to estimates, the 1983 Soviet grain harvest was about 200 million tonnes, the largest in five years. Moscow's 1984 production target is 240 million tonnes.

ARCO said offering to buy Gulf Oil

NEW YORK (R) — The Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) has offered to buy the Gulf Oil Corporation for nearly \$11 billion but Gulf rejected the bid at least in its early stage, the New York Times reported Tuesday. If the transaction went through, it would be the largest corporate merger in U.S. history.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

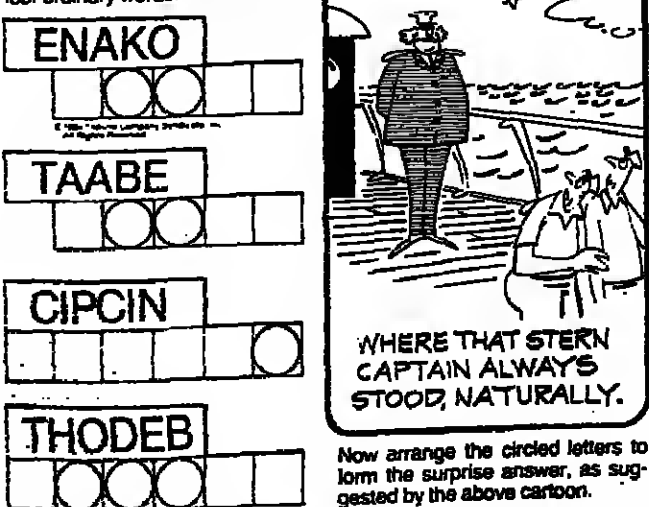
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"Every time I feed my financial records into my home computer, it GROANS!"

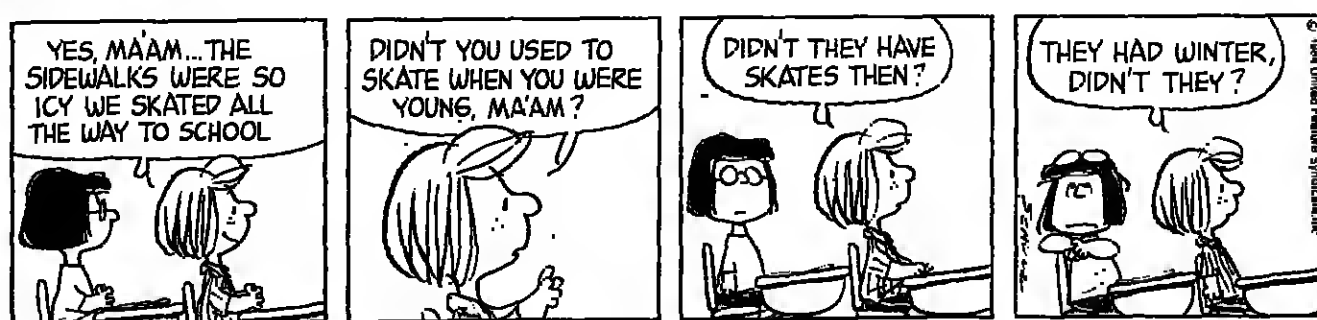
JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter in each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print AT OF THE
answer here: THE OF THE (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: ADMIT CAVED FAULTY PLACID
Answer: A careful driver is the guy who has just seen the car in front of him get this—A TICKET

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

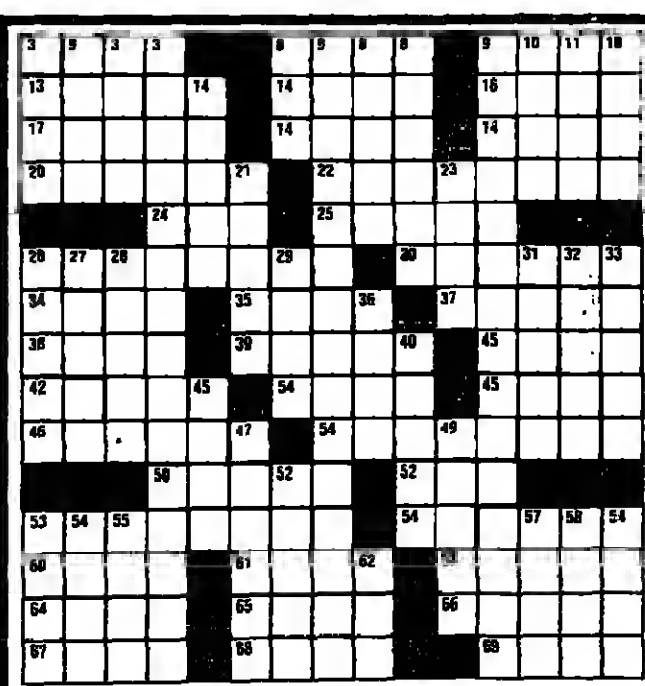


THE Daily Crossword

by C. F. Murray

ACROSS	25 Kindled again	48 Moving about	10 Bye-bye
1 Landing place for ships	26 Fruit tree	50 Ham it up	11 Partic-pating
5 Earning holder	30 African area	52 Everything	12 Mailed
9 Amos of baseball	34 "Deutsch-land" — allies	53 Fairness	14 Make tea
13 Pahoehee and as	35 Sediment	56 Slove style	23 Iranian coin
15 Celebes ox	37 Lawful	60 Hawaiian island	26 Addebrain
16 Wind indicator	38 Words of denial	61 Military group	27 Naar
17 Powerless	39 Over	63 Sea Arthur role	28 Armed to the
18 Diamonds	41 Abominata	64 First person	29 A Home
19 Jacket	42 Interefe	65 "— smile be your..."	31 Guam capital
20 Sipe	44 Busy as —	66 Ad	32 Boca —, Fla.
22 Deviating from the normal	45 — out (choice words)	67 Neck hair	33 Warn
24 Bottom line	46 Racial	68 Org.	36 Appear
		69 Chap	37 Precude
			43 Air, river
			47 Connecting link

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:	DOWN
ELIAN PISCIS ASTITER	1 Gash
STIRE MAIRE STIDRE	2 A Tumor
YOMBIBIEE SUMMA	3 Currier's partner
ENS SIENE AFAR	4 Confederates of a sort
SIATICE TETRAPODES	5 Fall behind
BYODE DOMACLET	6 Casino feature
ROMES HITT SPIED	7 Frozen dessert
ELIS YOMITOM ERSE	8 Canvas supports
ALPHOUSE DOVEYED	9 Going-in style group
CLIPES HAD	
ALLIS HARGIS SIAI	
GRIETA TOMAHAWKS	
RACER EYEN DAIIS	
ANKLE SIERA ETINA	



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U.S. hopes for talks with Chernenko

WASHINGTON (R) — Although many American experts on the Soviet Union regard new Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko as a conservative who will hew to existing Kremlin policy, the White House is setting the stage for improved dialogue if Moscow is willing.

In brief remarks on his arrival Monday in Moscow for Tuesday's funeral of Mr. Yuri Andropov, Vice-President George Bush said he hoped for better relations.

"We believe there are opportunities ahead to help bring peace to regions torn by conflict, to achieve substantial reductions in nuclear weapons and to increase contacts and co-operation between our peoples," Mr. Bush said.

In Washington, President Reagan interrupted his activities for a personal call at the Soviet emb-

assy, and the White House said it would welcome a meeting between Mr. Bush and Mr. Chernenko.

"Please accept my condolences on the death of chairman Andropov and convey my sympathy to his family," Mr. Reagan wrote in the embassy's condolence book.

In a formal statement read earlier in the day by Presidential Spokesman Larry Speakes, the White House invited the new Soviet leadership "to work with us in establishing a basis for greater understanding and constructive co-

operation. "Vice-President Bush will stress our commitment to peace and, in particular, to the search for mutually acceptable agreements in his discussions in Moscow," the statement added.

The statement was in keeping with the more conciliatory tone adopted by Mr. Reagan in recent comments on the Soviet Union. In speeches in the past month, Mr. Reagan has dropped the harsh rhetoric he previously directed toward Moscow and asked the Kremlin to return to suspended nuclear arms talks.

But administration officials generally concede they do not expect any dramatic shift in Soviet policy.

"The same politburo is still in place and the same men will be making the decisions in the near

future," U.S. Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick said in a television interview.

Undersecretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, in a separate interview, also predicted little change.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Moscow Malcolm Toon said of Mr. Chernenko: "Those who describe him as a colourless bureaucrat are close to the truth."

Mr. Arkady Shevchenko, a high-ranking Soviet diplomat at the United Nations who defected to the United States in 1978, said Mr. Chernenko was "never a man who occupied positions of importance on his own."

Mr. Shevchenko said: "Basically, the policies (of Mr. Andropov) will continue. The policy vis-a-vis the United States will remain unchanged."



Princess Diana

Diana pregnant again

LONDON (R) — The Princess of Wales is expecting another baby and the long-awaited news on Saint Valentine's Day pushed even the Soviet succession from some of Britain's popular newspaper frontpages.

Buckingham Palace ended months of speculation and said Diana, wife of Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, was pregnant with a second child. The baby is due in September.

Prince Charles and Diana had no preference for a boy or a girl, a palace spokesman said. But astrologers and gossip writers in mass-selling Fleet Street newspapers — jammed with pages of traditional Valentine's Day messages from sweethearts — predicted it would be a girl. The new baby will be third in line to the throne after Prince Charles and the couple's first child Prince William who will be two years old on June 21.

The Buckingham Palace announcement Monday said Queen Elizabeth was delighted and the 22-year-old princess was in perfect health.

Prince Charles, 35, has made no secret of his wish to father a brood of children.

Prince Charles and Princess Diana, the daughter of an English earl, were married in a glittering wedding ceremony in London in July 1981.

She has become one of the most popular members of the British Royal Family. The relentless glare of publicity she receives has prompted appeals from the Queen to press photographers to leave her alone.

Crowds gathered outside the London residence of the royal couple soon after the announcement was made at midday hoping to catch a glimpse of them and other members of the Royal Family coming to offer congratulations.

The palace spokesman said Princess Diana would continue her public engagements until August. But an official visit to Italy the couple had planned for October had been cancelled.

Seoul replies to North Korean peace talks offer

SEOUL (R) — South Korean officials met representatives from North Korea Tuesday for the first time in four years and handed over Seoul's response to a recent North Korean proposal for peace talks, officials here said.

Although the Seoul government said the text of the message from Prime Minister Chin Il-chong would not be made public for 24 hours, authoritative sources said it contained no dramatic new proposal.

The letter, handed to North Korean officials at the border village of Panmunjom, replied to a proposal by Pyongyang last month for tripartite talks between the United States and South and North Korea.

The sources said the letter repeated South Korea's call for a summit meeting first between the two Koreas.

What was new, they said, was the milder tone of the message which dropped the South's pre-

vious insistence that Pyongyang must apologise directly for the Rangoon bomb disaster.

Burma convicted two North Korean military men for the Rangoon blast last October which killed 17 South Koreans, including four cabinet ministers, and withdrew diplomatic recognition from Pyongyang.

But North Korea has denied any responsibility for the bombing.

Western diplomats said Tuesday's milder message to North Korean Prime Minister Kang Sung-San, whose appointment was announced in a reshuffle last month, was at the urging of its main ally, the United States.

Washington has called for a renewed North-South dialogue to ease tensions on the Korean peninsula.

"The ball is back in Pyongyang's court and it is up to them now to reply to Seoul's latest position," one diplomat said.

Chinese Communist Party leader to visit N. Korea

PEKING (R) — Chinese Communist Party Leader Hu Yaobang will visit North Korea this year, the New China News Agency said Tuesday, underlining Peking's support for Pyongyang.

Mr. Hu told visiting North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-Nam he accepted an invitation from President Kim Il-Sung and his son Kim Jong-Il with "pleasure and gratitude." No date was set for the visit.

Mr. Kim Yong Nam was ending a visit to China during which he discussed Korean reunification after what foreign analysts saw as a cooling in Sino-North Korean

ties after the Rangoon bomb blast in October which killed 17 South Korean officials.

The analysts said China was embarrassed by the attack, for which Burma blamed Pyongyang.

Mr. Kim came to China after Pyongyang proposed last month that tripartite talks on Korea's reunification should be held between the United States and the two Koreas.

During his visit Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke arrived from Seoul and conveyed South Korea's views on the proposal to Peking.

China signals strengthening of drive against leftists

PEKING (R) — China signalled Tuesday that it would intensify a faltering campaign against extreme leftists who still oppose the moderate policies of the post-Mao leadership.

In a front-page commentary focussing on a scandal in the northern province of Shandong involving a group of extremist county-level officials, the Communist Party newspaper People's Daily called for severe measures against leftists.

A purge of leftists in the 41-million-strong party was formally launched last October. But it fizzled out almost immediately and was replaced by a drive against "moral pollution" or Western influence which is associated with the so-called right or liberal wing of the party.

But the "moral pollution" drive ran into strong opposition from intellectuals and others advocating a flexible interpretation of Marxism and it has since been effectively halted.

The left has thus lost much of the ground it gained last year and now seems increasingly vulnerable, perhaps making it possible to launch the "party consolidation" or purge in earnest.

But diplomats said they expected no more than three per cent of members to be thrown out of the party as mass expulsions could undermine national unity.

Harmony is a key concern of elder statesman Deng Xiaoping who is determined to avoid at all costs the disastrous factionalism of the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Australia to decide fate of Asian air base

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Australia will decide soon whether to continue its military presence in Southeast Asia. Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Tuesday.

Mr. Hawke, visiting Malaysia on the last stage of an 18-day Asian tour, said he hoped the fate of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Mirage jet fighters based here would be decided after he had reported to his cabinet.

"I would hope we will be in a position to make a statement not too far after return to Australia," he told a press conference after meeting Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad.

Canberra is reviewing the future of its last remaining Mirage

squadron at Butterworth, opposite the northwestern island of Penang. The French-built fighters are due to be replaced with more advanced American F/A-18 Hornets.

Mr. Hawke said that after meeting Dr. Mahathir, who is also defence minister, he understood clearly both sides' needs and the value attached to Australia's presence at Butterworth.

"What has to be done now is to work out a way in which a continuing presence can be maintained," he said.

Mr. Hawke, who described the base's future as a "matter of considerable delicacy," declined to reveal the substance of his talks with Dr. Mahathir.

Several South East Asian countries have voiced concern over a Soviet naval build-up in the region. Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew told Mr. Hawke in Singapore Monday he wanted a permanent Australian commitment to provide an air umbrella for the area.

Mr. Hawke, who held two rounds of talks with Dr. Mahathir during his 24-hour official visit, said there was a degree of flexibility on the Malaysian side.

He said Dr. Mahathir was not pleading for the RAAF to stay and realised it was a decision for Australia to take.

"He was not in the position of the supplicant, there was no pleading by Dr. Mahathir in this respect," said Mr. Hawke, who flies home Wednesday.

Aquino murder enquiry shifts to Tokyo

MANILA (R) — An inquiry into the assassination of Philippines opposition leader Benigno Aquino shifted Tuesday to Tokyo where panel members hope to question Japanese and Philippine witnesses who might have seen the murder.

Commission counsel Andres Narvasa said the evidence could be crucial to the five-member panel, which began its inquiry last November.

A Japanese embassy spokesman said authorities in Tokyo had cleared the way for the inquiry to be conducted in Japan and the panel could leave Tuesday as planned.

The commission, headed by former Appeals Court Judge Corazon Agrava, have been trying almost from the outset to find a way to interview Japanese journalists who travelled with Mr. Aquino to Manila and claimed they saw the killing at Manila Airport last August 21.

Their efforts took on added urgency when a Philippine Air Lines engineer said in a U.S. television interview conducted in Tokyo that the man named as the murderer could not have committed the crime.

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Hindu strike starts in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Security was tightened in India's troubled Punjab state Tuesday for a strike by Hindu militants coinciding with resumed peace talks between Sikhs and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government.

The Hindus are protesting against the detention of one of their leaders and an alleged partisan attitude by police during a Sikh strike on Feb. 8.

Tuesday's stoppage, called by the Hindu Protection Force, was also due to cover neighbouring Haryana and Himachal Pradesh states as well as the capital New Delhi.

It was the latest threat to relations between the two main religious communities in Punjab, which have been tense since eight Sikh travellers were killed by Hindu extremists last October.

The killings were one of the worst incidents of communal strife since Sikhs, Punjab's majority community, started campaigning for political and religious concessions 18 months ago.

The Indian Express newspaper said in an editorial that Tuesday's meeting between Sikh leaders and the government set the stage for a conclusive meeting to solve the Punjab problem. It rejected militant Hindu demands for inclusion in the negotiations.

6 former Argentine junta members testify

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Six former junta members, including ex-presidents Gen. Roberto Viola and Gen. Leopoldo Galtieri, testified Monday before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, which is trying them in connection with human rights abuses.

President Raul Alfonsín, whose inauguration Dec. 10 ended more than seven years of military rule, ordered the court martial of the nine retired generals and admirals

who served on three successive juntas from a 1976 coup until 1982. Gen. Viola and Gen. Galtieri held the presidency in addition to their junta posts.

Mr. Alfonsín said in ordering the trials that the junta, as supreme government organ, was responsible for illegal detention, torture and murder of thousands of Argentines during the brutal repression of leftists in the years following the coup.

Also testifying Monday were

former navy commanders Adm. Armando Lambruschini and Adm. Jorge Anaya and Ex-Air Force Chief Gen. Omar Graffigna and Gen. Basilio Lami Dozo.

Gen. Viola and Gen. Galtieri served on the junta in their capacity as commander-in-chief of the army.

Gen. Jorge Videla — president from 1976-81 — Adm. Emilio Massera and Gen. Orlando Agosti testified before the Supreme Council last week.

Japan launches 9th scientific satellite

KAGOSHIMA, South Japan (R) — Japan Tuesday launched its ninth scientific satellite, which is designed to measure gases in the atmosphere which affect life on earth, officials of the Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science (ISAS) said.

Experiments by the 211-kilogramme Exos-C satellite will indicate whether the level of gases such as ozone and carbon dioxide above the earth's surface is changing. ISAS Project Coordination Director Minoru Oda

told reporters at the space centre in Kagoshima.

This will help scientists to calculate whether continued use of aerosol sprays and coal fires could harm life on earth, he said.

Many scientists think aerosol sprays have damaged the ozone layer which protects the planet from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

They also want to know whether the use of fossil fuels such as coal is raising carbon dioxide lev-

els in the upper atmosphere, creating a "greenhouse effect" which may lead to higher temperatures on the earth's surface and damage crops.

The Exos-C, shot into orbit by an M-53 rocket built by the Nissan Motor Company, joins four other Japanese scientific satellites now in space. Mr. Oda said.

Two are X-ray astronomy satellites designed to look for new stars and explore other stellar activity, he said.

Afghan army widens search for conscripts

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Afghan army, believed to be shrinking due to desertions and casualties in its war against Muslim guerrillas, is conducting its most widespread search for conscripts since Kabul's Communist coup in 1978. Western diplomats said Tuesday.

The army, which numbered over 100,000 men before the coup but now stands at about half that total, is using television ads, pay bonuses and outright coercion to get men into the army and keep them there, they quoted reports from their embassies in Kabul as saying.

The new measures complement the regular use of press gangs to comb cities checking draft-age men and immediately conscripting without the necessary exemptions, the diplomats said.

Afghanistan, which is helped in its war against the guerrillas by 115,000 Soviet troops, appointed a new chief of general staff and other top defence officials in early January in a shake-up designed to improve the military's performance, they said.

The diplomats cited what they called credible reports from Kabul saying the Defence Ministry decreed in late December that no more soldiers should be demobilised at the end of their three-year terms of duty.

They said they had received reports of protests from several areas, including Kandahar, Herat and Kinkud provinces, by men who thought their service was completed.

The diplomats estimated that only 20 per cent of all soldiers due to be demobilised late last year were actually released from the army.

Africa has 4 million refugees, U.N. says

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A United Nations report estimates there are about four million refugees in Africa and lists 128 projects, costing \$362 million, needed to strengthen the economic infrastructure of host countries.

It says the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is expected to spend about \$155 million in Africa this year, somewhat more than in 1983.

But additional funds are also needed to build and repair social and economic facilities in those countries that have received the refugees and returnees, defined as refugees who have been repatriated voluntarily.

The report was prepared for the second international conference on assistance to refugees in Africa, known by the Acronym Icara II, to

be held in Geneva from July 9 to 11. The first conference took place in 1981.

"Refugees and returnees have placed a considerable burden on the social and economic infrastructure of affected countries," the report said. "Additional facilities must be built and those components that have deteriorated because of increased demands must be rehabilitated."

The report said the largest groups of refugees were in the Horn of Africa and in eastern and central parts of Sudan.

Other areas were Rwanda, Uganda, Zaire, Burundi and Tanzania.

It said that in southern Africa the problem of refugees and returnees was related to the process of decolonisation and apartheid and involved the international

community.

The refugee problem in West Africa usually concerned individual cases of asylum and voluntary repatriation. But a notable exception was the movement of refugees from Chad into Nigeria, the Sudan and the United Republic of Cameroon, and their subsequent return a few years later, the report added. A United Nations team recently visited 14 countries that they wished to present their needs to learn II.

The team returned with a list of 128 proposed projects designed to help alleviate the burden that refugees have placed on social and economic facilities. These ranged from improving roads and bridges and building schools, to drilling for water and developing agriculture and fisheries.

Panama's president resigns, vice president takes over

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — President Ricardo de la Espriella resigned Monday, and the president of the Supreme Court swore in Vice President Jorge Illueca to replace him, the state television announced.

Mr. Illueca also is president of the 39th U.N. General Assembly.

The change in leadership comes three months before the first presidential elections since 1968.

A few minutes later Mr. Illueca confirmed in an announcement over national radio that he had been sworn in as president and said Mr. De la Espriella "resigned for personal reasons."

"We spoke very cordially and he told me that he had made this decision," Mr. Illueca said.

Mr. De la Espriella, 50, sent a letter of resignation to the National Congress at midday, the government television station said.

The letter, read over the government station, said simply: "I communicate in this way for

the pertinent reasons that I have decided to resign the presidency as of Feb. 13, 1984."

A secretary at Mr. De la Espriella's residence said she did not know where he was.

The government station said Supreme Court President Americo Rivera swore in Mr. Illueca, 65, as the new president.

Panama's last presidential election was in 1968. The National Guard, now called the Defence Forces of Panama, staged a coup and ousted the winner, Arnulfo Arias Madrid, 11 days after he took office.

The military has run the country directly or indirectly since the 1968 coup. It prohibited political activity for 10 years.

Gen. Omar Torrijos tightly governed the country from the coup, which he directed, until he stepped down in 1978. Gen. Torrijos continued to rule through his hand-picked replacement, Mr. Arisides Royo, until the general was killed in a plane crash on July

31, 1981.

But Mr. Royo was unable to balance the rightist and leftist elements within the country and leaned too far left to suit the military, which forced him to resign in July 1982. He gave a "throat infection" as his reason.

Mr. De la Espriella, then vice president, was installed as president and that "made him ineligible for re-election. Under the law a president cannot succeed himself, but can run again after two other terms have passed."

Until he became vice president in 1978, Mr. De la Espriella served for eight years as head of the National Bank of Panama.

He has played an important role in the Contadora Group — made up of Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia — which has sought peaceful solutions to Central America's political conflicts.

Contadora takes its name from Panama's Contadora Island, where foreign ministers of the four countries first met in January

1983 to discuss way to reduce tension in the region.

Mr. Illueca was elected last September as president of the 39th U.N. General Assembly. In November, there were reports that another cabinet minister had replaced him in an "interim capacity." But Mr. Illueca insisted through a spokesman he remained "titular" vice president of Panama.

Both his terms at the United Nations and at home were to expire late this year.

While Panama's rusty political machinery geared up for the scheduled May elections, there has been fear among some opposition politicians that the military might renege on its promise of neutrality.

Mr. Illueca pledged to carry out "free and clean" presidential elections scheduled for May 6 — the first since a coup in 1968. His promise was included in an official communique from the presidential office.



Kirk Douglas' dinner overcharged

SARAJEVO (R) — A Sarajevo restaurant has been closed down for trying to overcharge American film star Kirk Douglas, who is here to watch the Winter Olympics. City officials said the restaurant owner would be prosecuted after a night's stay was added to Douglas' bill, making it \$4,000 (about \$4,300) instead of \$400. The officials ruled out any suggestion of exploitation among the thousands of money-hungry visitors, many of whom did not know a dollar from a dinar before coming to Sarajevo. "This is the exception that proves the rule," one said.

Romance still thrives

LONDON (R) — Nearly 1,000 people from many parts of the world have sent Valentine greeting cards to be stamped Tuesday at the West England village of lover. Feb. 14, Saint Valentine's Day, puns the Wiltshire county village on the map as ardent wooers send it mail asking for it to be stamped with the "lover" postmark and forwarded to their sweethearts. In the same county at nearby Trowbridge, bird impersonator Tony Durant prepared to sing or whistle any of 600 mating calls over the phone if people call him Tuesday. As usual, British newspapers Monday published thousands of greetings in the form of personal advertisements from and to lovers sheltering behind pseudonyms and nicknames. The messages are cryptic, sentimental, tasteless or funny, depending on your outlook. Don't blame St. Valentine, the third century martyr, for all this.

25 gunmen rob Sri Lankan bank

COLOMBO (R) — A group of suspected guerrillas broke into a state bank in northern Sri Lanka and got away with jewellery worth nearly 15 million rupees (\$600,000), police said Tuesday. They said about 25 men, armed with revolvers, cut open window grills and made off with a safe containing jewellery. People who rushed to the bank on hearing unusual sounds were threatened by the gunmen and held inside the bank premises till the safe was removed. Police said the gunmen were believed to be members of a guerrilla group fighting for a separate state for Sri Lanka's minority Tamil community.

Elton John marries in Australia

SYDNEY (R) — British rock star Elton John married West German sound engineer Renata Blauel in Sydney Tuesday just four days after he proposed to her over a hot curry meal at an Indian restaurant. John, 36, one of the world's most highly-paid entertainers, smiled and said "thank you" to a crowd of about 2,000 well-wishers outside a tiny Anglican Church in central Sydney. The singer, in white morning coat, black trousers, lavender tie and straw boater, and his 30-year-old bride, who wore a dress of white Swiss silk organza, had just emerged from the church smiling nervously. Miss Blauel first worked with John 18 months ago on his record album Too Low For Zero, which has a final track called Kiss the Bride. She is due to go back to London, where she lives, at the end of this week.

Flyer seeks new record

WASHINGTON (R) — Brooke Knapp, the first woman to fly around the world via the poles, Monday set out in her twin-jet aircraft seeking a new around-the-world speed record. Knapp, a 38-year-old former stockbroker who now owns her own airline for corporate executives, hopes to make the 37,000 kilometres trip in less than 47 hours, 39 minutes, the current record for this class of aircraft. She also hopes to raise \$500,000 in donations to support United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) efforts to help children in developing countries. Knapp's Gulfstream III jet took off from Washington's National Airport with stops planned in London, Moscow, Novosibirsk, Peking, Tokyo, Honolulu and Los Angeles before returning to the U.S. capital.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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THE VANISHING TRUMP TRICK

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ Q932
♦ A Q52
♦ A7
♦ KJ9

EAST
♦ Void
♦ 109
♦ KQ
♦ J986542
♦ 7543

SOUTH
♦ A K654
♦ K63
♦ 103
♦ A Q8

The bidding:
1 NT Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
6 ♦ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: King of ♠.

Trump Coup Tommy was highly satisfied with the progress of the rubber. On the first hand he had brought home a five club contract against a 4-0 trump break and, despite his best efforts, on the next two hands his opponents had succeeded in making only one game. As readers of this column know, whatever Tommy gains through his superb play when trumps break badly, he gives back through going down on simple hands or misdefending and allowing his opponents to make games that should be defeated.

Although his partner wanted to try, there was no

way to avoid having Tommy declare the spade slam. After a Stayman sequence, North's jump over game inquired about trump quality, and that Tommy had to spare. Declarer took dummy's ace of diamonds, then found out about the trump break when he led a spade to the king. Tommy was in his element. If hearts were 3-3, Tommy could get rid of his diamond loser. But three rounds of that suit revealed that West had a stopper. Declarer ruffed the fourth heart and cashed three clubs, to reduce the hand to this position:

NORTH
♦ Q93
♦ 7
♦ —

EAST
♦ —
♦ —
♦ —
♦ J108
♦ —
♦ Q —
♦